

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA :: THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

Vol. VII.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 16th, 1928

No. 5

The Debate on the Address in the Alberta Legislative Assembly

Staff Correspondence

Alberta Livestock Pool Largest Handling Organization in Province

Livestock Pool Section

Is the U.F.W.A. Worth While?

Farm Women's Section

An Estimate of the U.F.A. Convention

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

Official News of the Alberta Wheat Pool

THE DOMINION BANK

Condensed Statement as at
December 31st, 1927

LIABILITIES

Capital Paid up.....	\$ 6,000,000.00
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits.....	8,120,524.45
Dividend and Bonus payable January 3rd, 1928.....	240,000.00
Former Dividends unclaimed.....	2,106.00

Total Liabilities to the Shareholders.....	\$ 14,362,630.45
Deposits by the Public.....	108,756,919.93
Balances due other Banks in Canada.....	2,199,987.74
Balances due Foreign Banks.....	2,924,818.09
Notes of the Bank in Circulation.....	7,844,817.00
Bills Payable.....	17,568.00
Liabilities not included in the foregoing.....	635,915.02

	\$136,742,656.23
Letters of Credit Outstanding.....	4,740,097.49
	\$141,482,753.72

ASSETS

Cash on Hand.....	\$ 13,225,563.54
Deposit with Central Gold Reserves.....	1,900,000.00
Cheques on other Banks.....	8,046,539.01
Bank Balances.....	3,479,981.66

Cash Assets.....	\$ 26,652,084.21
Government and Municipal Debentures, Railway and other Bonds and Stocks.....	21,549,733.45
Call and Short Loans in Canada on Bonds and Stocks.....	15,688,105.35
Call and Short Loans elsewhere than in Canada.....	5,886,430.85

Assets immediately available.....	\$ 69,776,353.86
Commercial Loans.....	60,845,951.75
Bank Premises.....	5,531,630.99
Deposited with Dominion Government for security of Note Circulation.....	314,650.00
Other Assets.....	274,069.63

	\$136,742,656.23
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit as per contra	4,740,097.49
	\$141,482,753.72

A. W. AUSTIN,
President.

C. A. BOGERT,
General Manager.

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Official Organ of

THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL
THE ALBERTA LIVESTOCK POOL
THE ALBERTA DAIRY POOL
THE ALBERTA EGG AND POULTRY POOL

Editor

W. NORMAN SMITH

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No. 5

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EDITORIAL

THE PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS

The statement presented in the Legislature last week by Premier Brownlee, showing the results of the last year's operation by the Government of the railways under their control, will be eminently gratifying to the people of the Province. A notable transformation has been effected in the financial situation on all the lines under the Department of Railways. The greatest surprise, however, is the extent of the improvement which has been effected in the position of the Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia Railway, which has a surplus of \$339,902 as compared with a deficit of \$34,385 in 1926. If the E.D. and B.C. and Central Canada lines be considered as a single system, the surplus for the last year is \$274,000.

The taking over of the lines tapping the Peace River country by the Government last year has been more than justified by the results achieved under the new management. Whatever course it may be desirable to take in the future in regard to the disposition of the lines, it is beyond question that efficient operation by the Alberta Department of Railways has vastly increased their attractiveness to intending purchasers. In the meantime, the operating surplus means the relief of the taxpayer from a large portion of the burden which has hitherto been mounting year by year and seriously retarding the progress of the Province.

MR. WEBSTER'S MISUNDERSTANDING

George Webster, of Calgary, the financial critic of the Liberal party in the Legislature, launched an attack

upon the Government's roadwork financing last week which proved to be a very damp squib. In view of the misleading character of much of the propaganda which has been carried on in a portion of the press, in regard to this matter, it is not surprising that Mr. Webster should have misunderstood the situation.

* * *

THE ST. ALBERT APPEAL

We wish to call the attention of all members to the appeal which has been made for funds to meet the cost, or part of the cost, of the St. Albert election appeal.

The special circumstances were set forth in a recent issue. With a view to ensuring clean elections, an appeal was entered following the last Provincial election. The appeal was unsuccessful, and heavy costs were assessed against Mr. Normandeau, who was the U.F.A. candidate. Considerably more than \$1,000 is still owing. Mr. Normandeau himself would have been prepared to settle had it been possible for him to do so. He has, however, lost his crop in two successive years—in 1926 owing to excessive wet weather and in 1927 owing to hail. Mrs. Normandeau has suffered serious illness, and it has been necessary for her to undergo operations involving large expense. In consequence of all these circumstances, Mr. Normandeau is totally unable to meet the judgment and is being pursued by the sheriff.

Contributions to this fund sent in to Central Office will be duly acknowledged in *The U.F.A.* and forwarded to the St. Albert Association.

* * *

WIRES CROSSED

Dr. F. W. Gershaw, the genial Liberal who represents Medicine Hat at Ottawa, must be seriously embarrassed at times by the kind of press support he receives from the Liberal newspaper published in his own constituency. On the day upon which he made a very sane appeal in the House of Commons for the development of trade relations with Russia as with other countries, the *Medicine Hat News* printed a lengthy editorial attack upon proposals of this character, which were denounced as "Traffic with Treachery." We condole with Dr. Gershaw upon the quality of his press support. No other daily in Canada could have been capable of such ineptitude.

* * *

"RIGHTS OF SMALL NATIONS"

It is gratifying to discover that an increasingly strong opposition is growing up in the United States against the invasion of Nicaragua by marines and bombing aeroplanes. It is easy for us on this side of the line to recognize the genuine patriots of the United States as those who are opposing the Nicaraguan war. It is not always as easy to recognize our own patriots under corresponding circumstances.

NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Activities of Locals and District Associations and Information from Central Office—Notes on Co-operation

To Address Meetings in Acadia

Itinerary of Mrs. Mary Banner and J. K. Sutherland

Mrs. Mary Banner, U.F.W.A. Director, Acadia, and J. K. Sutherland U.F.A. Director, Acadia, will address public meetings at the following points in the interests of the U.F.A. and the Pools:

Parr—Monday, February 20th, 8 p.m.
 Normandale—Tuesday, February 21st, 8 p.m.
 Rose Lynn—Wednesday, February 22nd, 8 p.m.
 Haldiday—Thursday, February 23rd, 2 p.m.
 Sunnyside—Friday, February 24th, 2 p.m.
 Corinth—Saturday, February 25th, 8 p.m.
 Homestead Coulee—Monday, February 27th, 8 p.m.
 Lonebutte—Tuesday, February 28th.
 Chvale—Wednesday, February 29th, 8 p.m.
 Millerfield—Thursday, March 1st, 8 p.m.
 Verdant Valley—Friday, March 2, 8 p.m.
 Garty—Saturday, March 3rd, 8 p.m.
 Necessity—Victor Hall, Wed., March 7th, 8 p.m.
 Springwater—Thursday, March 8th, 8 p.m.
 Gopher Head—Friday, March 9th, 8 p.m.
 Hackett—Saturday, March 10th, 8 p.m.
 Leo—Monday, March 12th, 8 p.m.
 Cornucopia—Tuesday, March 13th, 8 p.m.
 Byemoor—Wednesday, March 14th, 8 p.m.
 Endiang—Thursday, March 15th, 8 p.m.
 Scapa—Friday, March 16th, 8 p.m.
 Garden Plains—Saturday, March 17th, 8 p.m.
 Round Lake—Monday, March 19th, 8 p.m.
 Sullivan Lake—Tuesday, March 20th, 8 p.m.
 Wiese—Wednesday, March 21st, 8 p.m.
 Surprise Hill School—Friday, March 23rd, 8 p.m.
 Scollard School—Saturday, March 24th, 8 p.m.
 Auger—Monday, March 26th, 8 p.m.

If there is no U.F.A. Local in your locality or if the U.F.A. Secretary is absent, will some U.F.A. or Wheat Pool Member kindly see that these meetings are properly advertised, and arrangements made for a meeting place. If a dance or other social event is to be held after the meeting it will be found sometimes that a larger crowd of younger people is secured in this way. As Mrs. Mary Banner, the U.F.W.A. Director, is to be present and to address the meeting, will you please endeavor to have as large an attendance of the Farm Women present as possible. Trusting that all the U.F.A. and Wheat Pool Members do everything in their power to make these meetings a success,

Yours fraternally,

Hanna, Alta. J. K. SUTHERLAND

U.F.A. EXECUTIVE

The name of Mrs. R. B. Gunn was accidentally omitted from the list of members of the Executive which appeared on page 3 of the February 1st issue of The U.F.A. She is a member ex-officio.

FENHAM PROSPECTS ROSY

George H. Humfrey, secretary of Fenham Local, reports that prospects are "rosy" for this year.

MR. AITKEN'S MEETINGS

As announced last week, meetings will be addressed by A. F. Aitken, Director for Battle River, as follows:
 Orbindale, Monday, February 27 at 8 p.m.; Rosebery, Tuesday, February 28th at 8 p.m.; Irma, Wednesday, February 29th, 8 p.m.; Jarrow, Thursday, March 1st, at 8 p.m.; Killarney, Friday, March 2nd at 8 p.m.; Green Glade, Saturday, March 3rd, at 8 p.m.

SUCSESSES OF "FARTHEST NORTH" U.F.A. LOCAL

One of the accomplishments which Fort Vermilion Local has to its credit, after one year of existence, is the securing of regular and adequate transportation to the railway, by the Alberta and Arctic Transportation Co. This was important, adds the secretary, D. E. Utz, as it opened the way to the signing of Wheat Pool contracts. Through the Local, also, a sub-Dominion Lands Office was secured at Fort Vermilion. Due to the encouragement of the Local, says Mr. Utz, "1928 will see 50 farmers cultivating 2500 acres, as compared with 36 farmers and around 1700 acres in 1927." Work has also been done in grouping orders in order to receive wholesale prices, holding sports, getting improved mail service, etc.

The new officers of the Local are H. L. Parth, president; Wm. Ware, vice-president and D. E. Utz, secretary.

CAVELL LOCAL

The regular meeting of the Cavell Local was held on February 2nd. The discussion, which was quite animated, centered mainly on questions of local interest and importance.

HAULTAIN BASKET SOCIAL

The last meeting of Haultain Local took the form of a basket social, which realized the sum of \$53, reports W. O. Mountain, secretary. This money was used to send a delegate to the Annual Convention.

JUNIORS ENTERTAIN SENIORS

An entertainment put on by the Junior members, under the convenership of Miss Margaret Highland, was greatly enjoyed by Plainfield Local, following their last meeting. The evening was concluded with a candy sale and dance.

NINETY PER CENT SIGN-UP

While Hutton U.F.A. Local had only 14 paid up members last year, this represents 90 per cent of the available material, writes the secretary, E. A. Flanagan. They charge only \$2 fees, raising the balance by socials and dances, etc.

DEBATE ON MUNICIPAL HOSPITALS

Fairacres Local are holding a debate on the subject of municipal hospitals, writes the secretary, D. Warwick, "which will be interesting, as there will be a vote on one in this district in the summer. We meet every two weeks, and always have a debate or someone to give a talk."

WAVY LAKE LOCAL

Wavy Lake U.F.A. Local have now a community hall, writes the secretary, E. L. Cass. They hold two meetings each month, one a social meeting and the other a business meeting, with debates and addresses.

Seed Grain Freight Rate Reductions Are Now in Effect

Farmer's Seed Grain Certificates Must Be Signed by Local U.F.A. Secretary

Special seed grain rates are now in effect and will remain in force until June 15th, 1928, unless cancelled sooner, changed or extended.

The conditions under which reduced rates may be obtained are:

A Seed Inspection Certificate, or a copy of same, issued by the Dominion Seeds Branch, showing the grain is fit for seed, together with the Farmers' Seed Grain Certificate signed by the Provincial Secretary, United Farmers of Alberta, and also by the Local secretary, is attached to bill of lading at shipping point.

Application for inspection of seed and issuance of certificate should be made to the Dominion Seeds Branch, Immigration Building, Calgary. Any person can have three samples tested free. For each succeeding sample a charge of 50 cents is made for germination test, and 50 cents for purity analysis on cereal grain, the quantities required for making sample tests being one pound.

If the seed grain shipped be found to be inferior to the control sample, on which the certificate attached to the bill of lading was issued, regular tariff rates will be collected.

Farmers' Seed Grain Freight Certificates can be obtained from Central Office.

Carload shipments for distribution to a number of farmers may be consigned to the Local Secretary of the U.F.A. who should present Farmers' Seed Grain Certificates to cover the entire carload signed by each farmer who is getting seed from the car.

DISTRICT ASSN. OFFICERS

At the annual meeting of the Big Valley to Munson District Association, held in Morrin, M. V. Fearnough was elected president, Mrs. M. Brown vice-president, and Mrs. Russell, of Rowley, secretary.

REGARDING TOLL ROADS

In view of the report that certain private interests desired to build toll roads in this Province, for private gain, the Prairie Union Local at a recent meeting passed a resolution "petitioning the Provincial Government to give this matter fair consideration and in making their decision consider the interest of present and future generations."

ST. ALBERT APPEAL FUND

The following contributions to the St. Albert Appeal Fund have been received:

Willow Creek U.F.A. Local	\$5.00
John Schinner, Cadogan	1.00
Alwin Guhr, Cadogan	1.00

\$7.00

News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Locals Issued by the Department of Education and Publicity of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

HEAVY MARKETING

Nearly one million bushels of grain were marketed in the Lethbridge railway division during the first week in February.

NEW POOL LOCAL

Westwoods Wheat Pool Local has recently been formed with J. C. McMillan of Gadsby as chairman, and E. Pfeiffer of Red Willow, as secretary.

FEBRUARY THRESHING

Fine weather during February resulted in threshing being resumed in many districts in Alberta. There is a very considerable percentage of crop unthreshed in the fields.

DEMAND FOR BOOKLET

The demand for the booklet "Pooling Alberta's Wheat" has been very heavy and a second edition has been printed. Those who desire copies are requested to write in.

NEW SASK. ELEVATOR

The Saskatchewan Wheat Pool is asking for tenders for the construction of 30 country elevators to be completed by July 31st. This will bring the total of Pool elevators in that Province up to 750.

CARRYING POOL WHEAT

The British freighter "The Homer City" was the twelfth vessel to carry a cargo of wheat from the Pool elevator at Prince Rupert this season. The "Homer City" took a full cargo in three days—a record for the port.

NEWS OF THE LOCALS

A new Wheat Pool Local has been formed at Pibroch with Charles T. Gamble as Secretary.

F. W. Edler of Youngstown is now Secretary of the Youngstown Wheat Pool Local.

J. S. Boyd, Boyle, Alberta, writes to the Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office: I am a man seventy-five years old, but would stay with the Wheat Pool if I only raised twenty-five bushels of wheat a year. I know all about the Grain Trade for the last fifty years.

FOURTEEN SHIPS FROM RUPERT

Early in the month the British steamer "Swainby" sailed from Prince Rupert with 270,000 bushels of Pool wheat. The "Sagoland" followed the "Swainby" and brought the total of vessels carrying grain from Rupert this year up to fourteen.

GOOD SEED

Preparations are under way for an extensive campaign to induce the planting of good seed on Alberta farms this coming spring. Conditions have reached the stage where Alberta farmers are suffering heavy losses because of poor seed and the large amount of weed seeds planted each spring.

DISCOURAGING SPECULATION

A despatch from New York, published in Canadian daily newspapers, states that the Canadian Wheat Pools have discouraged trading in wheat on the

large American exchanges. Since 1924 onward, trading in wheat has decreased. The Chicago Board of Trade monthly report shows only 436,484,000 bushels dealt in compared with 817,704,000 a year ago.

SASK. COARSE GRAIN POOL

A drive is being held in the Province of Saskatchewan for the signing up of the Second Series Coarse Grain Contracts. A bulletin issued by that organization states: "The influence of the Coarse Grains Pool in the stabilizing and maintaining of prices increases with the number of Wheat Pool members who sign up their coarse grains acreage, no matter how small, to the Coarse Grains Pool."

POOL FIRMLY ESTABLISHED

Addressing a meeting at Stavely, J. Jesse Strang, Director for Claresholm stated that so firmly has the Wheat Pool been established that it is not within the power of the Grain Trade to materially injure it, much less break it. Such a disaster can only be caused by the farmers themselves. It is therefore up to the farmers to be loyal to this institution and give it their whole-hearted support.

MAINTAINING QUALITY

The representative of the Canadian Wheat Pool in Paris, France, writes to say that Pool wheat has attained a higher reputation in Marseilles because of the higher quality of Pool grain over other shipments. One miller in that French city is conducting a sort of campaign among his friends to let them know that wheat shipped by the Canadian Co-operative is quite better than wheat of similar grade received from other shippers.

RADIO BROADCASTING

A great deal of interest has been taken by Wheat Pool members in the Friday evening Wheat Pool radio broadcast this winter. Scores of letters have been received, commenting favorably on the program. Members of the head office staff of the Wheat Pool have been assisting in adding interest to the programs by contributing vocal solos. These have been well received by the listeners-in. The Alberta Wheat Pool broadcasts every Friday evening commencing at 8.30 and 8.45.

SECOND SERIES SIGNERS

The following is a list of names of a few with acreage of 300 or better, who have signed Second Series Contracts recently: James Ward, Arrowwood; W. J. Douglas, Penhold; C. S. Christiansen, Monitor; Armand Paquette, Sedalia; Frank Hubka, Carmangay; James S. Belyea, Shepard; Agnes Holden, Brant; Eugene Shepler, Rosedale Station; W. A. Adams, Veteran; Geo. Smith, Burdett; W. A. Barnett, Islay; Metro Pawluk, Kaleland; B. P. Schleppe, Beiseker; John W. Acheson, Cayley; Anton Hagel, Beiseker; Sam Virotek, Enchant; Henry Dosch, Empress; Orson Derricott, Macleod; Jesse A. Kelley, Brant; Trond Berger, Larkland; J. B. White, Ked Deer; Norway Farm Company, Ltd., Ardenode; E. Pye, Penhold; Milford McMurray, Macleod.

A MYSTERY

Addressing a Wheat Pool meeting at Brandon, Manitoba, A. J. McPhail, President of the Canadian Wheat Pool, said the success of the Pool is due more to the intelligent interest taken by its members in its operations than to any other factor. Speaking for himself and other officials as well as the members of the Pool he could say that there is no feeling of resentment towards farmers who do not belong to the organization but there is a feeling that such farmers, unconsciously perhaps, are not doing their full duty towards their own industry and are doing themselves and other farmers an injury. Over in the Old Country last year, one of the leading grain dealers there had told him how it was a mystery to him how there should be any farmers in Western Canada who was not a member of the Wheat Pool.

POOLING COARSE GRAINS

The status of the proposed Coarse Grains Pool in Alberta rests in the hands of the growers. If sufficient contracts are signed by August 1st of this year there will be a Coarse Grains Pool in Alberta. In Saskatchewan and Manitoba Coarse Grains Pools have operated efficiently and rendered a real service to the growers. From the 1926-27 crop the Central Selling Agency handled 5,443,965, bushels of oats, 11,681,171 bushels of barley, 1,355,918 bushels of flax and 2,550,345 bushels of rye. The average prices obtained for coarse grains were:

Oats, 2 C.W., 60½ cents; Barley 3 C.W., 71 cents; Flax, 1 N.W., \$1.92; Rye, 2 C.W., 97½ cents.

The coarse grains are handled with the same machinery as the wheat division and the flat charge of ¼ cent a bushel was levied on them by the Selling Agency.

WHAT IS MAGILL'S OBJECT?

Dr. Robert Magill, Secretary of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, is reported as stating in an address delivered in Toronto, that the average of the Canadian wheat crop is so low that British millers are unable to secure mixing grain from Canada. Commenting on this statement, E. B. Ramsay, Manager of the Wheat Pool Central Selling Agency said: "If Dr. Magill is quoting from the experience of the Trade in obtaining satisfactory prices, he should have made this clear, but the Wheat Pool which is handling the bulk of the crop is quite satisfied with the demand and the prices paid for the 1927 crop. Mr. McIvor, our general sales manager, reports not only a normal demand for our wheat, but states that sales of our No. 3 Northern have been at a premium over Argentine wheat of the best grades. The proportion of the crop in 1, 2, and 3 Northern and Tough 1, 2 and 3 Northern has been about 62 per cent. of the total of the wheat delivered to the Pool. The demand for 4 and lower has been so keen that it has been difficult to satisfy. What purpose the Grain Exchange had in view in disturbing the European buyer's mind as to the quality of the Western farmers' produce it is difficult to understand. The Pools have received no complaints in respect to their shipments this season."

Road Traffic Problems, Junior Activities and Relations Between Provincial Farmers' Bodies Command Attention of the U.F.A. Convention

Executive to Report to Next Convention on Subject of Future Relationships with the Canadian Council of Agriculture—Delegates Favor Licenses for Motor Drivers, Increased Gasoline Tax and Increased License Fees for Drivers of Heavy Trucks

Upon taking the chair at the opening of Thursday's sitting of the Annual Convention, Robert Gardiner, M.P., read a telegram from H. W. Gothard, a veteran of the U.F.A. who is well-known as the composer of a number of songs of the movement, conveying greetings to the delegates. Mr. Gothard is now living at Victoria, B.C.

A resolution requesting the Alberta Government to instruct their engineers to insist on government grants being spent on main roads connecting towns and villages until such roads are in good condition, was adopted after a discussion during which Hon. O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, gave an account of the policy of the Government which proved very satisfactory to the delegates. The resolution asked that the government engineers advise councillors in charge as to the proper location of culverts, borrowings and drainage, and maintain a stricter supervision than has been customary in the past.

MUNICIPAL UNIT TOO SMALL.

Mr. McPherson said he was heartily in accord with the demand for more rigidity; there must be more uniformity and stricter adherence to regulations. The Department was seeking to bring the municipalities along in this respect as far as possible. The municipal unit was rather too small. A grouping for road purposes to permit of better equipment being used was desirable, and it might be necessary to wait until municipalities were willing to face this necessity. "Until we abandon the idea of each councillor being responsible for the work in his district and get the idea that the responsibility is that of the council as a whole," said he, "we shall not get anywhere at all."

H. McKenzie expressed approval of the resolution, stating that in the matter of control of road work we were, by retaining the smaller units, "getting behind the times." At the suggestion of George Proudfoot a recommendation was included in the resolution that engineers inquire into the possibilities of making improvements for winter traffic.

Answering a question regarding the use of tar sands for road purposes, Mr. McPherson said that he believed that the time would come when these would be of great value. The cost would run about \$20,000 per mile, and this was too high for the present. The cost of gravelling highways was from \$2,000 to \$3,500 per mile.

PRESS AGITATION AND MISREPRESENTATION

"There has been in this Province," Mr. McPherson proceeded, "a great deal of agitation and misrepresentation in regard to the returning of auto taxes to the use for which they were intended. It has been said and written repeatedly by newspapers, and in interviews through the papers, that it is time the Government returned to the people of this Province the amount of taxes collected from motor licenses. That is based absolutely on misinformation." Mr.

The report of daily proceedings at the U.F.A. Annual Convention is continued below. It will be concluded in our next issue, with the exception of an outline of the discussion on Banking and Credit, which is reserved for special treatment.

McPherson then cited the figures in proof of his statement which have subsequently been used in the Legislature.

A resolution from Stettler Provincial C. A., dealing with a road from Nevis to Alix, was tabled on the ground that this was purely a local matter.

The Convention adopted a resolution from Acadia Federal C. A., asking the Provincial Government to enact legislation "which will make travel on our roads, especially on our main highways, safer than at present," and suggesting more strict regulations in regard to the dimming of lights when meeting or passing at night; in regard to the right of the road; the reduction of the speed limit "to a factor of safety consistent with the density of traffic," and asking that any person "found guilty of driving a car when under the influence of liquor be punished by imprisonment." On motion of H. G. Young a clause was added urging the institution of "some system of drivers' licenses as soon as possible."

PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR DRIVERS' LICENSES

Mr. McPherson announced that the Government were of the opinion that drivers' licenses were desirable, and that as soon as the people were ready for it the necessary provision would be made. It was proposed that there should be a license for every member of a family who drove a car. If this were not insisted on the object of the license would be defeated. The licensee would be required to know the Motor Vehicles Act. Licensing had been found necessary in almost every part of the world where traffic had become highly developed, and sooner or later was inevitable here. The Minister said he had given a great deal of attention to the difficult problem of glaring lights. It might be that the manufacturers would find the solution. Dimming had its own danger, which might be more serious than the glaring light itself.

The Provincial Government was asked to assist municipalities to maintain municipal roads which were subject to heavy motor traffic. Mr. McPherson stated that such a policy was actually being carried out by the Government, \$600,000 being granted to municipalities for the purpose. The situation in regard to roads could never be met fully, because the need was constantly increasing, and Minnesota which was spending \$31,000,000 for roads would probably be, relatively speaking, as far behind as Alberta when this money had been spent.

INCREASED LICENSE FEES FOR COMMERCIAL TRUCKS

The Convention declared in favor of "a substantial increase in the gasoline

tax and increased license fees on motor trucks which are used for hire or commercial haulage purposes," an amendment "that the tax on gasoline used for agricultural purposes be rebated," being defeated after Mr. Porter of Conrich Local had dwelt upon the difficulty which would be incurred in ascertaining exactly what gasoline was used for cars and what for other farm purposes. "How are you going to police this thing?" he asked. "If you adopt the rebate plan you will need a large number of policemen to conduct an inquisition on the farms." Mr. McPherson pointed out that the moment a rebate was given to farmers it would be necessary also to allow rebates to various other classes of gasoline users.

REPORT OF JUNIOR BRANCH SECRETARY

On Thursday afternoon the report of the Junior Branch Secretary, Miss E. M. Hull, was presented to the Convention.

It contained a most interesting and comprehensive review of the progress made during the past year. In the course of the report Miss Hull said:

"Three things are needed to organize and carry on a Junior Local besides the young people, and these are—the interest of the parents, the co-operation of the Senior Locals, and a good supervisor. If the parents take but a luke-warm interest in the activities of their children, and do not help and co-operate with them in their work and play—disintegration of the Junior Local is bound to set in. And much also depends on the supervisor. A supervisor may make or break a Local. If the Senior Locals in your district appoint this officer, I earnestly appeal to you to see that the person appointed is capable of winning the friendship and confidence of the young people he will have to work with. He must be young enough of heart to be in sympathy with them in everything they try to do. He must advise them, rather than command—and give that advice tactfully. The office of supervisor is one of the most important Local tasks—and the person holding that office must be heart and soul in his work. The young people are perhaps most able to judge as to who will likely prove best at this work—ask them for suggestions when next electing their supervisor. I have heard of numerous cases where the young people have asked for certain persons to be appointed to that position, only to have their request ignored. If you sincerely wish your Junior Local to carry on in peace and harmony—choose carefully its leader. You will never realize that wish by appointing over them someone who does not understand them."

Following the adoption of the report, Charles Mills, President of the Junior Branch, was called upon to address the Convention, and Miss Molly Coupland, Vice-president, was introduced.

JUNIOR PRESIDENT ADDRESSES CONVENTION.

Mr. Mills said that all the Junior delegates would return to their homes

(Continued on page 36)

An Estimate of the Calgary U.F.A. Convention

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY, Coaldale

That the U.F.A. is a unique expression of the principle of self-government, the most successful experiment in democracy that the world has yet seen, is the proud declaration of H. W. Wood, well known head of that organization, who was elected President for the thirteenth time at the recent Convention in Calgary. Is this eulogy to be taken seriously? or, is it a mere euphemism, a product of the man's enthusiasm for his own cause?

Considered superficially and according to certain accepted standards the Calgary Convention of that body would not warrant Mr. Wood's proud claim. Critics are not lacking who point derisively to the apparent lack of education of many delegates participating in the debates. The narrow-minded patriot, who resents the activities in our public life of the foreign born, could find much to justify his sneer. The cynical observer would see much cause for amusement, as did one of the Calgary dailies, at the facility with which the Convention passed from the humbler subjects of farm life to the larger realm of international politics. There is no doubt that the detractors of the movement could build up for themselves a very satisfactory case.

A Significant Phenomenon

Critics, cynics, ultra-patriots and all other detractors notwithstanding however, the farmers of Alberta persist in their chosen course; and whether or not one cares to use the superlative, with their President, or to be more cautious, the fact is beyond dispute that the Calgary gathering of January 17th to 20th is one of the most significant socio-political phenomena of modern times. For those four days, commencing at nine-thirty with commendable promptitude, and proceeding for three sessions till ten or eleven o'clock in the evening, with much committee work and many sectional gatherings in the meal hours, a mass of business affecting agriculture in particular and citizenship at large was dealt with and disposed of in a manner not easily to be excelled anywhere.

Central United Church, in which the sessions were held, was none too big accommodate the crowd. Nearly five hundred delegates occupied the floor of the auditorium, with about three hundred registered visitors in the gallery, and many hundreds more on the fringes of the gathering, many being unable at nearly every session to find seats, even when the great doors were opened to include the church school room. In addition to this closely packed crowd there was of course the invisible audience served by the city broadcasting stations. These, too, participated in the Convention, asking by wire questions of the speakers to whose speeches they were listening.

The Convention Chairmen

Twenty years of experience in local gatherings, district meetings and Annual Conventions has contributed much to the comfort and well-being of delegates, and promoted great efficiency. For one thing the Convention is greatly served by its chairmen. Though the President is given the honors of that office, the actual work is performed by his elected assist-

ants, Robert Gardiner, M.P., of Acadia, and E. J. Garland, M.P., member for Bow River. U.F.A. Conventions have never lacked for chairmen of conspicuous ability. At one time, when the basis of representation from Locals was one delegate for each ten members, and the membership was ranging around the 30,000 mark, it was no small task to control the huge gathering of fourteen or fifteen hundred delegates. One recalls the scene in First Baptist Church, Calgary, in 1920, with Herbert Greenfield in the chair; the year before he became the first U.F.A. Premier of Alberta. It required a dominating personality, a knowledge of the rules of procedure and a good voice to sustain order there; and he was quite equal to the occasion.

One Sign of Development

The task for the Calgary chairmen of this year was a much easier one. Not only has the basis of representation been raised to one in twenty, thus cutting the number of possible delegates in two, and the membership much below that of those days; but there has been a great development in the meantime among the delegates themselves. It was not an uncommon thing in those days for a dozen delegates to attempt to speak at once; and the chairman had to adopt many an ingenious device, and exercise much good humour to make debate possible. At Calgary last month there was evidence of much more patience and understanding among the five hundred members of the Convention.

Robert Gardiner is a Scot. He is quiet, judicial, sure; and the Convention under him moves smoothly along, taking its own course and its own time, except when it gets off the track. On such

occasions the chairman draws attention to the point at issue, any wrong tendency is checked and business proceeds. E. J. Garland is an Irishman. His swift mind carries the Convention along at an accelerated pace. With here and there a sharp comment cutting to the core of the matter in hand, with an impartial attitude to all, yet brooking no waste of time on the part of any, business is rapidly put through. Under both men, who take turns at the work, the Convention rests secure in the knowledge that they are no longer tyros in procedure. They have not spent the last six years at Ottawa for nothing.

Uniqueness of U.F.A. Movement

Herein lies the uniqueness and greatness of the U.F.A. movement. In the course of twenty years it has developed a social philosophy. It has sought certain political reforms and pursued certain economic ends. It has built up great economic organizations. It has, by electing over two-thirds of the legislators of Alberta, captured the political machinery of the Province. It has sent to Ottawa a group of men who have made a big contribution to the political thought and development of Canada. It has shaped public opinion by its meetings and Conventions; and, in its later years, by its own press and publicity agencies. Thousands of men and women in its ranks have devoted much time to the study of public questions, particularly those pertaining to agriculture. They are watching the progress of the agrarian movement throughout the world. They are versed in the history and evolution of democracy. From out of its ranks it has produced men of force, learning and experience, who have proven themselves in many fields.

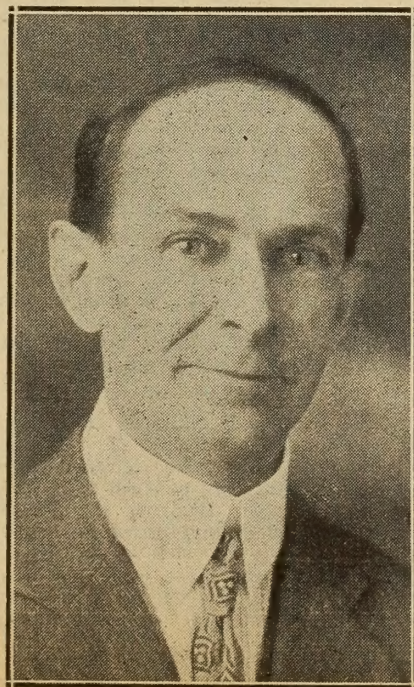
The association has now its salaried experts ready to give advice. It has an efficient office system and staff. The directors and management of its Wheat Pool, its Livestock, Dairy, Egg and Poultry Pools, now operating on a Province-wide scale, and associated with marketing agencies and trade channels reaching round the world, are a body of men ready to render service to their organization at any time. To these must be added the officers and agents of more local enterprises, experimenting and succeeding in the field of consumers' as well as producers' co-operation, at many points throughout the Province. Last, but not least, in the list, is the group of men who form the Cabinet of the Alberta Government.

Only Fly in the Ointment

All of these lines of achievement were represented at the Calgary convention. In what more efficient way could democracy function? If agriculture and its allied interests were the only concern of democracy the answer to that question would be easily given. For an agricultural Province like Alberta it is a wonderful instrument of self-government. The only fly in the ointment is that the urban and industrial interests are not functioning in a similarly efficient manner.

There were present on one or more days of the convention: Premier J. F. Brownlee; Attorney-General John Lymburn;

(Continued on page 38)



NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

As Seen From the Press Gallery

Some Preliminary Impressions of New Session—Question of Co-operation—Liberal Leader's Critical Immaturity—Webster's Little Omission—Gibbs and the Human Interest Side of Legislation.



By JAS. P. WATSON
The U.F.A. Staff Correspondent

A year ago I expressed fear that under the present constitution of the Legislative Assembly such a progressive thing as group co-operation was an utter impossibility. To-day, if asked what my preliminary impressions of the present session along that line are I have to frankly admit to being up in the air. The other day the Conservative leader dealt in a constructive way with major aspects of economics, and though in some regards he had no solutions to offer, the very fact that he tackled the problems in a constructive way at all won the respect and admiration of the members. The next day the Premier accepted some of the premises as stated, agreed with many of the conclusions, differed with others, and made a great plea for all to forget party in the effort to put the Province on its feet.

Then along comes George Webster, influential Liberal, and speaking not only for himself but for his party in the Assembly, declares that they are willing to carry on as Albertans and members of the Legislative Assembly rather than as politicians. And through all the affirmations and protestations of co-operation that surround on every side, Labor sits back on its chair and smiles cynically. Well, well. Wait and see.

The only attempted criticism came from the Liberal benches. Starting the ball rolling on the debate on the address the Liberal leader was in a hard position, not knowing yet the temper of the Assembly. His attempts at criticism were wholly inadequate, that is if deep impression was intended, woefully superficial, and seemed rather of the juvenile essayist type of construction. Not so with George Webster. His was a studied effort, which, though it was easily shown by the Minister of Public Works to be inaccurate because of incomplete data, was a commendable effort at criticism.

To be a financial critic means labor. It is necessary to have all the facts before one. The omission of the tiniest jot or tittle mars the computation. But when an omission amounting to several hundred thousand dollars is made, the error is fraught with grave results. Such was the deplorable condition of the Liberal member from Calgary's statistics. Truly, as he claimed, not only the Attorney General but the Assembly was saturated with all the figures—all but the odd \$700,000 which would have made the saturation point complete.

Just for comparison's sake, as well as for the sake of accuracy, look these figures over. In the year 1926, George Webster said, the following expenditures were made:

Ferries appropriation 704 and 752.....	\$ 59,405.88
Bridges appropriation, 705 and 753.....	50,891.16
Main Highways appropriation, 706 and 753.....	190,457.11
Market roads appropriation, 707 and 771.....	244,276.58

Up to this point there is complete agreement. The next item is the rock on which criticism falls. George Webster makes the following four items:

Page 16 of the estimates interest and sinking fund.....	\$180,947.41
Provincial Secretary's Department.....	26,788.85
Warrant 55 Debenture interest.....	52,000.00
Warrant 44 Public Works.....	34,200.00
A total over all of \$838,966.11	

The auditors figures are lumped under the following head:

Surveys and Compn. for lands (appropriation 751) Interest and sinking fund (estimate) 1,048,000.00 a grand total of \$1,593,030.73, which is a mighty big difference, due to the fact that the latter item covers interest on borrowings as far back as borrowings go.

The revenue shown for that year alone by Mr. Webster for gasoline and motor taxes was substantially correct, namely \$1,577,013.81. If he had added the sum of \$664.50 for road allowance leases, it would have given the net receipts on income account, namely, \$1,593,030.73. A comparison, therefore, of the actual receipts and expenditures for that one year 1926 will show that the receipts did not cover the expenditures, the sum of \$15,352.42 being over expended. Figures can sure stand for a lot of abuse.

To complete the information with regard to the year 1926, it may be noted that Mr. Webster gives the interest and sinking fund authorised by the Highways Act of 1924, which amounted to \$180,947.41. The reason why this was the only amount noted must have arisen because Mr. Webster, like many others, imagines that both gasoline and motor licenses are specially earmarked for construction and maintenance of roads, and also because he hesitates to meet the interest on capital borrowings of the years before the Highways Act was passed, out of income from these two impositions. As a matter of fact, the act authorizes the raising of loans for the construction and maintenance of main highways, the loan to be secured by a sinking fund built up from one half of the fees or other revenue collected under the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act or such smaller fraction thereof as shall be sufficient.

There is no such thing as an earmark on gasoline taxes. Out of the total revenue from these two sources the following amounts were paid for interest on past borrowings: Bridges, \$390,093.08; roads, \$439,459.18; and ferries, \$14,454.03. Now please note that this was in the year 1926. Why were these large payments necessary? Did the needs of that one year in construction or maintenance absorb that sum? No. But just as Mr. Webster proposes to borrow fifteen millions to be expended over a period of ten years which sum would be liquidated by posterity through the specific earmarking

of these two taxes, so the past has to be liquidated by this generation. The people of tomorrow could offer the same objection to Mr. Webster's borrowings if carried into effect.

Hereby hangs a tale. Up to the year 1910 what roads and bridges were constructed were paid for out of income, or in other words, under the principle of pay as you go. Then along comes A. L. Sifton. He enunciated the policy of road construction by means of capital borrowing. So far so good. Here is where astuteness comes in. Arguing that the amounts expended from income account for the construction of steel bridges should rightly be met from capital, thus making posterity foot the bill, his Government borrowed money, not only for future expenditures, but to re-imburse general revenue for past spendings. I am not criticising but stating a fact.

The year 1924 saw the first attempt of any Alberta Government to put main highway construction on a proper basis. One thing is perfectly clear—after the Highways Act had been put on the statute books and the principle of liquidation from part of the specified income adopted, highways began to take shape on real scientific lines, no mushroom growth, but a steady sane policy. One could not fear to place the cost on posterity because posterity will reap where we had sown. But who can say that the present generation has very much for the monies borrowed in the early days of road building. There was no justification for the fact that certain constituencies got favors not extended others, nor of the fact that election years in those days were heavy consumers of the product. Today there is no differentiation in this way.

Just the same, we have to let the dead past bury the dead acts of dead men, and go on footing the bills incurred. Whether we meet those bills out of one pocket or out of another pocket, meet them we must, or fail to function. In order to meet all just demands for services other than roads, revenues must be more or less elastic. It is safe to say that the demands for roads in the next few years will be increasingly great, but those who are entrusted with the spending of the people's money will also find that the human interest side of administration so ably depicted by C. L. Gibbs—education, health and social legislation—has its true and just demands. Shall revenues which might help to make all round development be tied for years to a single phase? Or shall the advance not rather be made along the entire front? As the Frenchman said—"I vote for heem."

Freddie—Father, what is an egotist?

Father—An egotist, my son, is a man who tells you those things about himself which you intended to tell him about yourself.—Regina Leader.

Debate on Address Features Week in Assembly —Premier Makes Comprehensive Survey of Problems of the Province

Lymburn Deals With Certain Incorrect Newspaper Stories—Webster's Statistics on Road Finances, and What the Actual Records Show—Group and Party Leaders Express Views in Debate

STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

Shaw Challenges the First Division on Speaker's Ruling

The Matter of the Coal Tax—Lymburn Administers Fatherly Rebuke to Liberal Leader

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 6.—There was at least one bitterly disappointed legislator in the little house upon the hill at the conclusion of the speech during the progress of the debate of the address, of the Liberal Chief, Captain Joseph T. Shaw, and that one was Joseph T. Shaw.

It was a case of Greek meeting Greek. First, Fred J. White, in the endeavor to precipitate a debate on Old Age Pensions, had given notice of a resolution to come up on the day usually devoted to the discussion of resolutions. This was forestalled by a Government motion of somewhat different construction placed upon the order paper, motions of the sort which take precedence of all others. Then came the big push. Thinking to forestall both groups the Liberal Leader concluded his speech on the address by moving a resolution which practically amounted to a vote of censure on the Government for not having given any indication in the Speech from the Throne of their intention of passing complementary or enabling legislation on the lines of the present Federal Act.

FAT IS IN THE FIRE.

The fat was in the fire. George MacLachlan (U.F.A.), Pembina, leapt into the breach. It was not in order, he contended, to move any resolution anticipating another resolution notice of which had already been given. The Speaker requested the members to debate the point of order. Mr. Shaw attempted to justify his action. The Premier thought he would leave the question of order to the good judgment of the Speaker, but said he failed to see why the Liberal Leader had reason to complain of having been granted no opportunity to discuss this matter.

L. A. Giroux, (Lib.), Grouard, took up the cudgels right nobly in defence of his chief's position. "This is the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne," he hurled at the Treasury benches. "Have we no right to move a vote of censure on this Government?" was the way he put it. "Sure," came the echo from the back benches to the right.

The Speaker read the rule governing the situation. It was very specific, he pointed out. No motion anticipating another motion of which notice had already been given was in order. He ruled Mr. Shaw's motion out. Mr. Shaw was greatly peeved. He did what is seldom done. He appealed to the

The debate on the address continued throughout the week ending February 10th, and was adjourned by Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture, after he had answered certain statements of the Liberal leader in criticism of his Department.

During the week important reports were laid on the table of the Assembly. The report of the Department of Railways revealed notable improvement in railway finances, while the report on the Telephone System, which will be surveyed in our next issue, showed that the system is now in a sound financial position.

Assembly against the ruling. On the question being put the Speaker declared that the chair had been sustained.

The Liberal leader rose to demand a recorded vote. Like Horatius at the Bridge he found one good Liberal on either hand but no more. As it takes five to demand a division, the balance of the Assembly laughed derisively. Mr. Shaw was still more perplexed and chagrined. A voice from somewhere spoke softly—"We wanted a recorded vote," and the Speaker, catching the gentle murmur, intimated that the rules were that five was necessary for that purpose.

Immediately the whole body of six Liberals were on their feet. It was clear that there had been a slight misunderstanding. Then the division was taken. Farmer and Conservatives supported the Chair-44. Liberals voted against the ruling of the Speaker-6. Labor, like Gallio, cared nothing for these things and sat tight. What if the political Rome burned! Bah!

The speech went on. Gordon Forster, (U.F.A.), Hand Hills, took up the parable. Then the Attorney-General, who, unfinished, adjourned the debate near six o'clock.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Shaw said they had met this year in the shadow of a great loss. Touching on Captain Fingle's life and work, Mr. Shaw paid the most eloquent tribute to a colleague heard within the Chamber for many years. The Liberal leader urged upon the present Speaker to convey to Mrs. Fingle, the widow of the deceased member, a communication bearing the Assembly's respect and their genuine and real sympathy in her bereavement.

After complimenting the mover and seconder of the address, Mr. Shaw remarked that the promise of a program in the Speech from the Throne had been very light, in fact contained only two things, the Farm Loans Bill and town planning, that were worth mentioning. However, he had changed his mind as to their having an easy session when he saw the grist brought down on the second and third day.

The Jubilee had been a great success, and another feather was placed by the Liberal chief in the cap of the Federal Government for celebrating in the way they did (maybe that's a raw way to put it but you know what is meant). Then there had been the Dominion Conference, at which, when the Alberta delegation had been announced, he had been disappointed at the personnel of the envoys, so to speak. He hoped the advance notices were out of harmony with the results achieved.

Mr. Shaw touched on the natural resources, trusting that religious controversy would be avoided, and saying it was worth while if it was true that negotiations had been renewed. With regard to the Provincial railways, he wasn't hilarious about the rather indefinite offers which the Government were considering. The real reason why there had been any offer at all, however, was that the Dominion Government had expressed the intention to clean up the railway messes in all the Provinces. He thought it strange that all the correspondence had been carried out by the Premier rather than the Minister of Railways. No disparagement meant, you know.

The member admitted that such a thing as a joint offer from two competitive companies had him guessing. In fact he could not see how the public could receive adequate service under such an agreement. The offer would have to be a particularly fine offer with regard to the A. & G.W. before he would endorse the sale.

STRIDES IN POWER DEVELOPMENT.

Power development was next. It was convenient to throw the blame on a Government two thousand miles away. But this Government had not been alert. They should have appointed a Commission to make a survey of the entire field of power development. Certain private interests had been gobbling up all the franchises available, and if the Province should ever desire to operate any power project, great difficulty and expense would be entailed in getting rid of these interests. Not that he was committed to public ownership or operation but some survey should be made with a view of preserving the great privileges and monopoly for the benefit of the Province. Power would play a more and more important part in the life of the Province, and he stood not only for power for the city but for the electrification of the farm.

The Liberal leader had a little clash with the Premier with respect to Federal Aid to Highways. Having remarked that Premier Brownlee had quoted Premier Gardiner to the effect that Federal Aid led to extravagance, Mr. Brownlee shook his head, half rose to his feet, then with an "aw shucks" kind of air resumed his seat. Captain Shaw proceeded. The Premier finally rose,

saying that if Mr. Shaw would please state the specific instance when he had made such a quotation he would be glad because he had no recollection of it. Mr. Shaw didn't remember, either, but that was of no consequence because he had a distinct remembrance of it.

Anyway, the member from Bow Valley did not oppose highways. We had to have an aggressive highway construction program. But this Government was woefully deficient in maintenance. Roads had been impassable for weeks, and had it not been for private enterprise of clubs it would have been much worse during bad weather when roads had to be cleared of snow.

ATTACK ON HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Then came the attack on the Health Department. Strange things had been going on and there were hints of dark deeds going on unhindered. There was the Innisfail hospital, an institution which had cost some twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars, the plans for which had been prepared by the Government architect, and at least had not been disapproved by the Department, and after two years' operation it had been found wholly unfit for service, unsuitably located, and in such condition that it had resulted in serious disease and death in one or two cases. This would show that the Department was not functioning as it should. The member advocated the appointment of some body to investigate the operation of the Health Department, and thought the Minister would himself welcome such a suggestion gladly.

With regard to the statement in the speech regarding a National Coal policy, Mr. Shaw thought the term rather ambiguous. What did it mean? It was a nice term, lots of glamor. Was it a prohibitive tariff that was meant? If so that would take 60 millions out of the pockets of the consumer in increased cost of coal and in loss of revenue from transportation of the American product. Was it a subsidy? He did not believe in that. The only solution was a cost rate, fixed by the Government (Federal). He poked fun at the Conservative leader with regard to some mysterious pre-election train which had gone from Drumheller at a cost of several thousand dollars, the record of which had never reached the investigating committee. Mr. McGillivray smiled back sweetly. There had been errors, thought Mr. Shaw, in the car ton divisor used by the compiler of the majority report and the cost of return of the empty car. His guess was that Hon. Frank Oliver's \$6.50 rate was correct.

Here was the real solution—don't tax the coal companies. The member held no brief for the coal companies, because very few of the mine owners ever voted for him. This Government had a craving for litigation. He had been told by a reliable mine owner that great loss had been entailed because of the certification of miners. They could not be got.

P. M. Christophers, at this point, asked a few questions. Had this particular owner tried to get certificated miners outside the area referred to? Mr. Shaw said it was in one to the major fields. His informer was a prominent and reliable man and he gave the information to the Assembly for what it was worth.

Chris Pattinson, (Labor), Edson—"It isn't worth very much."

THE OLD AGE PENSIONS SCHEME

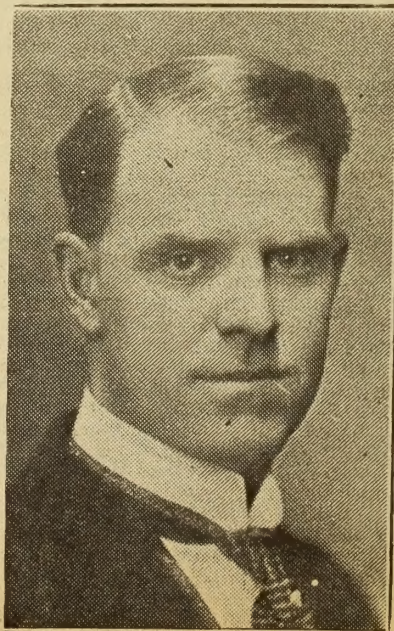
There was another clash or two with the Labor members on the question of the bi-monthly versus two weekly payday, after which Mr. Shaw berated the Government for giving no hint of an equitable redistribution measure. Then he came to the subject which led to the first division of the session, Old Age Pensions. He built up a fairly substantial case for pensions. That goes without saying. He flailed the Province for wanting the Dominion to pay the whole shot. The U.F.A. resolution was the most innocuous and senseless thing which could be devised, with B. C., Manitoba and Saskatchewan paying the old folks, this Province would stick out like a sore thumb, the only one not realising its responsibilities.

The Liberal leader said various other things about financing the scheme. The Provincial Secretary's report showed increase in income of some five hundred thousand, which would take care of the scheme. He fancied the Premier's estimate of six hundred thousand too high. Manitoba had a deficit of \$600,000, yet had not hesitated. It was a moral obligation. He then moved his amendment, with results already described.

GORDON FORSTER TAKES PART IN DEBATE

Gordon Forster, (U.F.A.), Hand Hills, was glad that the question of bonding people handling other people's monies was receiving recognition this session. Lawyers were not specifically mentioned. He criticised the subject matter of several bills introduced, and made a sharp attack on the whole construction of the Noxious Weeds Act. He advocated a zone system, based on the needs, ability to undertake control, and financial standing of the inhabitants within the zone, and suggested a survey to determine these. Municipal and agricultural high schools, together with the adoption of the Australian method of teacher control, appointment by the Department through the inspectorate recommendation were favored by this member. He advocated

SPEAKS IN DEBATE



J. T. SHAW

the broadcasting of the speeches of the leaders of the different groups.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ANSWERS SHAW

Attorney General Lymburn associated himself with Captain Shaw in his remarks regarding Captain Fingle, and paid a brief tribute to the late Field Marshal Haig. After touching on the trip to Peace River last summer, and stating that the associations of the trip had at least taught the individual members of the different groups to value each other's opinion, he went on to point out that the business of Government was a much larger thing than many people imagined, because they as legislators were charged with responsibility for the lives and liberty of the people as well as the material well being.

He worked this comment into a fatherly rebuke to the Liberal leader by remarking that legislators because of that should have definite information on all subjects discussed by them, and he said that if Mr. Shaw had lived in the time of Moses he would have been an adept at the great pastime of making bricks without straw. All the Liberal leader had done, he said, was to repeat things which he had been told by others without first ascertaining the facts, and this was the more inexcusable because the facts were easily procurable.

For example, the Attorney General, pointed out, take the coal tax. Mr. Shaw's premises were entirely wrong. The subject of litigation was not occasioned particularly because of objection on the part of the owners. The question was on the competency of the Province to impose such taxes. The Alberta court had sustained the tax as intra vires; the appeal had resulted in the Supreme Court of Canada reversing that decision, declaring it to be ultra vires, and the Province, to decide definitely the right of the Province to levy such taxes, had taken the case to the court of last appeal, the Privy Council. This was given just as one specimen of the accuracy of Mr. Shaw's statements.

The member from Bow Valley had attacked the Government with reference to the condition of the Highways at a particular time of the year. Had Mr. Shaw not read that even in England, where the good old Romans had laid the foundation for the roads, people who had been constantly in touch with London were suddenly cut off from communication for a period and had had to have relief by aeroplane. The year had been an exceptional one in that regard, and Alberta had been no exception.

HAD OFFERED NO CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS.

Mr. Shaw had dealt in generalities. He had criticised the school act, but had not offered one constructive suggestion. This was the more heinous because Mr. Shaw must surely have made a study of the question and must as a result have something constructive to offer. The leader's remarks on redistribution were very inept, as while this subject would be dealt with in due season, the fact remained that this Government had won their way to power on a battlefield set by their predecessors.

Mr. Shaw—"No, No."

Mr. Lymburn—"I repeat it. In 1921 this Government had fought on the battleground selected by the Liberals when in power. That battlefield had not been changed."

The Attorney General agreed that 1927 had been a great year, one which

those who participated in the ceremonies or witnessed would never forget. He gave a fervent recital of the methods whereby all Scotsmen came to be so patriotic, such lovers of their country, and hoped that the ceremonies here would inspire in Canadians the same national consciousness.

UNFAIR AND INCORRECT NEWSPAPER STORIES.

Dealing with material prosperity, Mr. Lymburn gave instances to show how what had seemed an impossible situation a few years ago had been transformed by the application of the Debt Adjustment Act. It had been regarded as a dangerous innovation, and something that would interfere with vested rights and the inherent right of creditors to collect. Today, with only one exception, no mortgage company was heard to complain against this legislation. Not only so, but the newspaper story, repeated at intervals, that legislation on the statute books kept capital out of the country, was unfair and incorrect. He only wished that corporations in the mortgage business would publish the amount of monies loaned to farmers in late years and the amounts collected in interest, because if this were done it would set at rest the complaints of the press for all time.

The policing of the Province came under review. The Province had offered to take over the duties of the Dominion police, but the Dominion refused to even consider it. The Province maintained 180 officers and men. These men administered all major laws, and the force was adequate for that purpose. The Dominion force contained 111 men, and in event of the transfer, this would have to be augmented by 90 more. The cost to the Province would be \$220,000. Saskatchewan received their quota at \$184,151. As against Alberta's 201 men, Saskatchewan had 220, the extra being accounted for by the maintenance of a training school at Regina. Alberta would have to maintain a force of some kind for the enforcement of its own particular laws. The matter would come up for discussion.

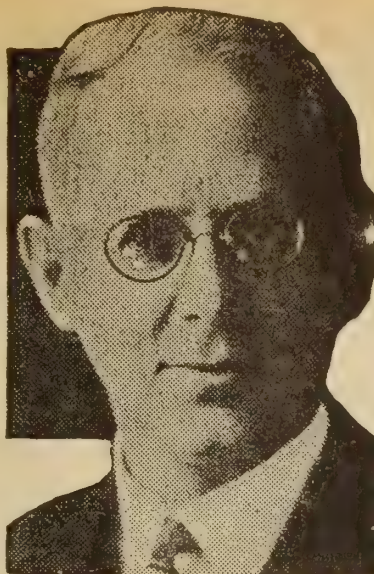
Mr. Lymburn touched on the Lethbridge Northern, giving the figures as presented in the annual report of that project to show that great progress was being made on a rapidly expanding scale. At the conclusion of his speech he moved the adjournment of the debate.

BILLS GIVEN SECOND READING.

Something like thirteen bills were given second reading in order to allow them to come before the Standing Committees. The only protest registered at this stage was that of A. M. Matheson, (U.F.A.), Vegreville, who intimated that if the amendments to the Game Act were in the nature of a move to take control out of the hands of the Assembly and vest it fully in the Department, he must necessarily oppose it. Mr. Hoadley remained discreetly silent, and the bill was read a second time.

A bill to license real estate dealers, after the pattern of the B.C. legislation which has been in operation two years and worked satisfactorily, would give the public the assurance that the parties handling real estate were reasonably responsible people, said the Minister handling it, Mr. Reid. It provided for a license and a bond. Another bill of the same sort was that governing the sale and installation of lightning rods, introduced by the same Minister. Lightning rods, properly installed, were an undoubted protection, but inferior rods, poorly installed, were a menace.

SPEAKS IN DEBATE



Hon. J. F. LYMBURN

The Premier tabled the correspondence from the C.N.R. with regard to the A. & G.W. railway. Assuming that the price is set by the Government at \$5,000,000.00, says Sir Henry, in effect, the C.N.R. will take it over if the Government will meet all fixed charges for the first two years, the next two years the C.N.R. will pay the interest on \$1,000,000.00, which is \$45,000, the next two years the interest on \$2,000,000.00 which is \$90,000.00; each two years thereafter it rises another million on which interest is paid, until the eleventh year, when the Company will pay interest on the full five million. There is no indication of what is to happen with regard to the principal.

Then Sir Henry applies the rather Aberdonian trait of suggesting that the \$5,000,000 really was \$4,500,000, but this subtle suggestion was effectively countered by Mr. Brownlee in his reply dispatched today. That sum had cropped up once when a cash price for the whole of the Provincial lines had been under discussion, and had never been moved as a basis for the sale of the A. & G.W. separately. So that's that.

SPEAKS IN DEBATE



A. A. MCGILLIVRAY

McGillivray Rebukes Shaw for Remarks During Debate

Describes Comment on Conference as Insult to All Albertans—White Favors Action on Pensions

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 7.—After Premier Brownlee had made reference to the late Field Marshal Haig and reviewed briefly that officer's services to the British Empire, at the opening of the sitting of the Assembly this afternoon, the members rose for one minute in silent tribute to the late Earl's memory. Thereafter the standing committees were appointed and some other routine transacted. Attorney-General Lymburn finished his contribution to the debate on the address; A. A. McGillivray delivered one of the best reasoned, serious-minded speeches he has yet delivered; Fred J. White, Labor leader, carried on the good work, and Premier Brownlee adjourned the debate.

It was a day of all round excellence in debate, a calm and dignified application to business from the different viewpoints of the different groups, with very little in the way of political horsplay to mar the effect.

WORK OF DEPARTMENT OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN

The Attorney-General, continuing his speech of yesterday, added to the Government's record of re-establishment and reclamation that of the work carried on by the branch for supervision of neglected children. The people were not aware to any extent of the activities of this branch of endeavor. He went into detail on the methods of dealing with delinquent boys and girls. Instead of the reformatory these children had been given a better chance for the future through their being placed where the beneficent influence of family home life would be felt by the child, and so successful had this method proved that out of 227 boys who had been so dealt with it had been found necessary in only sixteen cases to send the lads to a reformatory. One boy had been sent to college instead of the institution, with results beyond expectation. The delinquent girls were taken care of by women who were specialists in that line, so that 4 out of 27 were all whom it was found necessary to send to a convent or other institution. This branch administered the mothers' allowances also, 926 widows had been assisted to the extent of \$340,000.00. The children of unmarried parents were also taken care of, and a large number of voluntary settlements effected.

The Government had made representations for the provision of judicial services in Peace River without increasing the judiciary, said Mr. Lymburn. He had reflected overnight on the remarks of the Liberal leader with regard to the personnel of the Provincial delegation to the Dominion conference and was still unable to figure out the purport of his remarks. If Mr. Shaw was right in stating that the Dominion Conference was a futile gesture insofar as the Province of Alberta was concerned it was quite all right with them, but he doubted if the member was speaking for the Dominion Government. In fact, the Attorney-General was convinced that the remark was a positive disparagement of the Right Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King who was a much bigger

man than that. He wanted Mr. Shaw to know the opinion of at least one man who was on the spot, and proceeded to read an extract from the pen of Grattan O'Leary to the effect that the man who made the deepest impression on the Conference was Premier Taschereau, and went on to read, amid loud applause from all sides of the Assembly, that Premier Brownlee of Alberta made the second deepest impression.

MR. MCGILLIVRAY DECLARES SHAW'S STATEMENTS INSULTING.

A. A. McGillivray, (Conservative), Calgary, paid tribute also to Earl Haig and Captain Fingle. He complimented the mover and seconder for the speeches brimful of information which they had made, urged very strongly that all important bills to be dealt with should be in the hands of the members not later than the second day of the session to give the members time to digest them and compare them with similar measures in other Provinces. He regretted omission from the Speech of any reference to redistribution, repeating his faith in one system of balloting for the entire Province. Also he deplored lack of information with regard to Spray Lakes, was glad that the speech indicated continuance of negotiations for the natural resources, and with regard to the Dominion Conference said that *as the delegation represented all the people of this Province the remarks of Leader Shaw that the Alberta envoys had been received with courtesy, listened to with suspicion and dismissed with pleasure was an insult which would be resented by six hundred thousand sturdy Albertans.*

The Conservative Leader touched briefly on the question of the police and also on old age pensions. When old age pensions came up for discussion he would have no hesitation in stating where he and his party stood, but he could not subscribe to the Liberal leader's vote of censure on the assertion that this Government had made any endeavor to preclude discussion, when right on the order paper which he waved dramatically in the air there was a resolution on that subject.

Amid evident amusement on the Labor benches the leader took up the cudgels of behalf of workers. Government speakers had pointed out that there had been no appreciable amount of unemployment, and relief work unnecessary. He was sure his Labor friends would not share these views. Assuming it was true, however, the time to deal with unemployment was not when that evil was at its worst and relief rations and soup kitchens were the only palliatives available. Unemployment had its roots deep in the economic foundations of civilised society, and the remedy would have to go down to those roots if the structure of civilization was to be preserved.

CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT SOCIAL.

Mr. McGillivray analysed the various suggested causes, individual and collective. Insobriety, indolence, shiftlessness and kindred traits were more or less the result of heredity and environment, and were not the real reason for the prevalence of unemployment, as was proved in times when work was plentiful. The trouble was social, interwoven into the fabric of our economic life. He analysed and dismissed the various theories for its solution, anarchism, communism and socialism, and while not assuming to offer one more nostrum to the sum total endeavored to point out the obvious

causes. Seasonal industry, harvesting, coal mining, construction, all flooded the labor market when the work season ended; credit withdrawn from industry was in his opinion one of the chief contributory causes. The Government should give serious study to unemployment insurance. They had means to determine the cost which he had not. As we had political democracy so must we go on toward economic democracy, and he drew a picture of economic democracy with labor and capital sitting around the table together.

The Government should arrange public works at a time when work was most needed, try to encourage the export trade and set up a labor exchange to work with other Provinces.

WAGES AGGRESSIVE IMMIGRATION POLICY

The member made a lengthy reference to immigration, urging the Province to carry on an aggressive policy of attracting, selecting and colonising. No Province could get along better with 600,000 people than with 2,000,000. Smoke stacks, payrolls and a home market were necessary to success. This Province could not remain pastoral forever. Nor would it do for the people to stand for the bugaboo of the long haul of manufactured products of the east when we had such potential resources of coal, oil gas and hydro.

Mr. McGillivray also went extensively into the coal problem. The Liberal leader's anxiety over the influx of Welsh coal was merely an echo of the Hon. Chas. Stewart's Paris message, but though the Minister had since then recanted, his disciple was still true to his original faith. Mr. McGillivray avowed that he was bold. He was no hypocrite. There was no difference between the parties at Ottawa with respect to the tariff. Both were pledged to the tariff, and anyone who maintained otherwise was stooping to political trickery. The only difference was that one party talked of safeguarding industry and the other of protecting it. Canadian markets for Canadian products was his slogan.

The subsidy method was merely the equalization of the burden on all members of the Confederacy, and it was not a case

of the East against the West. The West had given its quid pro quo in the shape of purchasing high priced products under the wing of a protective tariff.

The member urged continuance of the fight for a just rate. It was not his desire that the railways should lose. Pending final disposition of the freight rate question the railways should set a fair rate, and if at the end of a certain period it should have been found that the railways had suffered no loss, well and good. But if a loss were sustained, then let the railways be reimbursed from the public purse. He finished with an appeal, as the Province stood on the threshold of an edifice of greatness when what the members would say and do would either accelerate or retard progress for many years, that the voice of partisanship should be hushed and that they should speak and vote as Albertans.

WHITE SETS FORTH THE LABOR VIEWS

Fred J. White, Labor leader, Calgary, paid his respects to the memory of the member from Medicine Hat. The Speech had very little indication of the introduction of any social or remedial legislation. On the question of immigration he noted that the Conservative leader had had a change of heart since last session, when he moved to strike out Labor's proposals for the Dominion Conference. He welcomed the leader as a Labor exponent, and hoped that when the time came to vote for Labor's recommendations he would prove his friendship in the right way.

Speaking briefly on Old Age Pensions, Mr. White reminded the Assembly that there had been a time when education had been considered too costly to be undertaken by the state, but today millions were expended for that purpose. There was not a Government in the West which had not accepted or intimated that it intended to accept the present measure, except Alberta, and Alberta was blessed in that it had the lowest percentage of folks of seventy or over of any Province. He deplored the fact that aged people would have to wait another year, and he thought it probable that by that time some would have passed beyond the need of even that small meed of benefit.

The Labor leader wondered if the Province realized the seriousness of the situation with regard to hydro, when at the present time 32 franchises had been taken up, 18 by the Calgary Power Company and 14 by other groups. He desired the Government to be fair to the people of the Province and declare its stand on the question of Provincial ownership.

Fire insurance of public buildings was next touched on, and the member reminded the Government of their promise last year that something would be undertaken. If the Government did not feel free to proceed themselves, they could prepare some kind of measure to empower municipalities and school boards to deal with the matter.

CONGRATULATES THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The eight hour day, minimum wage, and other Labor measures formulated at the 1919 Labor Conference, were pressed for by Mr. White. He congratulated the Health Department for the improvement at lumber camps through its action. The supply of bedding and blankets was still a minus quantity at some camps, and the labor bureau, in sending out parties of men should

SPEAKS IN DEBATE



F. J. WHITE

make sure that men would not have to sleep in the clothes in which they worked.

The Government should be very careful with regard to the E.D. and B.C. and not be too ready to part with it. They had reason to believe that the annual statement of the operation of this road was an indication of the potential value, and in any case Mr. White deprecated any action by the Government with this road in the manner of that pursued in the disposal of the L. & N.W.

Premier Makes High Appeal for United Front in Alberta

Brownlee Urges Non-Partisan Approach to Problems—Gibbs on Human Side of Legislation

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 8.—Expressing agreement with the Conservative leader's faith that this Province was on the eve of a great era of advancement, and making a strong appeal for all the people of the Province to forget party affiliations and present to the Dominion a united front with regard to our railway problems, as was done by the Province of Manitoba in the case of the Hudson's Bay railway, and compel attention and action, Premier Brownlee wound up a great speech in the Assembly this afternoon. Galleries were crowded, as there were three or four conventions on, some of which suspended their sittings for the occasion. The Premier intimated the possibility that a soil survey may be made along the Government lines of railway.

C. L. Gibbs, (Labor), Edmonton, followed the Premier with a rather humorous speech welcoming with suspicion the Conservative leader within the precincts of the Labor Party. Never before, he affirmed, had the case for labor been so well presented, but he put a fly into the ointment when he wondered if the proponent was ready to go on to the logical conclusion and gird on the sword of the social crusader. Ex-Mayor Webster adjourned the debate.

PREMIER BROWNLEE OPENS ADDRESS.

Complimenting the mover and seconder of the address, Premier Brownlee opened his speech in the afternoon. Like the other leaders he referred to the passing of Captain Fingle and concluded by saying that from the expressions so spontaneously voiced from all sides of the Assembly the Speaker might, without the necessity of a formal motion, convey to Mrs. Pingle the heartfelt sympathy of the members of the Assembly for her in her bereavement.

With regard to the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Mr. Brownlee stated that he had looked upon these at first with apprehension and skepticism. The cosmopolitan nature of the population, drawn from many nationalities, made it doubtful as to whether any strong, vibrant, compelling spirit of Canadianism would emerge. Now that it was a thing of the past he was highly satisfied, and he felt assured that this new found Canadian spirit would prove a "pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to light our way."

The Premier then pointed out the significance of the holding of the mining

SPEAKS IN DEBATE



PREMIER BROWNLEE

and metallurgical convention last year, by a body of scientists of world-wide reputation who would convey to the outside world the facts relating to the tremendous wealth of this Province in mineral and other resources. The visits of the Royal Princes and Premier Baldwin and Secretary Amery, would also result in wide publicity for the Province. The Governor General and Lady Willingdon had paid two visits to Alberta, and the Premier announced that this year their Excellencies would visit the Peace River.

Turning his attention to the Dominion Conference, and in answer to the observations of the Labor group, the Premier outlined the procedure of that body. All Provinces intimated what

subjects they wished to discuss to Premier King, who had called the conference; then at the conference all delegates were allowed to discuss freely, and the Dominion Government promised to give earnest consideration to the views presented. No resolutions were allowed. Practically all the subjects suggested by this assembly were placed on the agenda.

Mr. Brownlee had welcomed the conference as an opportunity to present the case for the Provincial railways. It furnished an opportunity for Alberta and the Maritimes to appreciate each other's problems, and for the three or four distinct types of Provincial life to be better understood all round. As Ontario and Quebec had always sought some compensating advantages whenever it was suggested to grant Alberta its resources, the Alberta Government had not placed that subject on the agenda. Nevertheless, Premiers Taschereau and Ferguson had brought it up in a very fine way and signified their willingness to the conference to acquiesce in the transfer, and also to continue subsidies in lieu of lands alienated. While at Ottawa the Premier had looked further after the matter, and gave his listeners renewed hopes that in the near future the transfer would be completed on better terms than ever.

DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS.

A very important phase of the Conference was the discussion of financial relationships. The Dominion had constantly expanding sources of revenue, while that of the Provinces was being more and more restricted. Direct taxes, which were the only taxes a Province could impose under the articles of Confederation, had not the same resiliency as indirect taxes. While the Dominion was liquidating its debt and at the same time decreasing its taxation, the Provinces were seeking new sources of taxation and going more and more into the direct field. This was necessary because of the increasing demands with respect to highways, health, education, etc., and for the development of new districts which increased the revenues of the Federal Government. The ratio of subsidies had not kept pace with the de-

DEFICIT OF \$35,385 TURNED TO OPERATING SURPLUS OF \$339,902 IN 1927 ON E.D. & B.C.

Remarkable Transformation follows One Year's Operation by Government of Peace River Line

The remarkable financial improvement which has been effected by the Department of Railways during the past year in the operation of lines under its control, particularly in respect to the E.D. and B.C. line, since it was acquired by the Government and operated by the Department, is shown in the figures quoted below. These were given by Premier Brownlee at the close of his speech in the debate on the address, on February 15th.

The statement follows:

A. and G.W.	1926 Deficit \$21,405	1927 Surplus \$ 32,757
L. and N. W.	1926 Deficit \$ 4,046	1927 Surplus \$ 1,558
E.D. and B.C.	1926 Deficit \$34,385	1927 Surplus \$339,902
An improvement of \$374,287.		

Canada Central.	1926 Deficit \$101,119	1927 Deficit \$66,234
An improvement of \$35,000.		

If the E.D. and B.C. and Central Canada were linked together there would be a surplus of \$274,000, whereas there was a heavy deficit last year of \$135,504.

The offer of the companies had been 17 millions, but boiled down after interest charges had been met it meant 15 millions. He counselled the Assembly not to be carried away with the inglorious hope of railway branch lines if the companies finally secured the roads, as all parts of the country were clamoring for the companies' eyes and their finances were stretched to the utmost.

mands, and as an example the Premier pointed out that if the Old Age Pensions were adopted in this Province, they would throw a burden on Alberta equal to one third of its total Federal subsidy. Coming back to the address, he thought the Government in an exceedingly happy position. As there had been no severe criticism there was consequently no attack to answer. There were one or two things of minor importance which he disposed of first, such as the suggestion of the Conservative leader that all bills be down not later than the second day. Already there were some forty bills down, and the Premier gave good reasons why it was impractical to have the entire grist down at the beginning. With regard to the suggestion that the Speech from the Throne should be a review of the work of the Government, and contain a sufficient outline of the work of the session, he cited Manitoba's experiment in that regard as it had been reported that this particular Speech was "unduly wearisome and very, very dull."

LEGISLATION BY NO MEANS EVERYTHING

"I contend," the Premier went on, "that legislation is not everything, but of far greater importance is the efficiency of the annual administration of important departments and the consideration of whether this Government has dealt out even-handed justice to all without regard to difference of occupation, politics or creed." To give the Assembly an insight into the work of the Government, he went over the outstanding duties of the different Departments, beginning with that of the Attorney-General. The enforcement of law and order was a primary function of ordered government, and he quoted from Lord Bryce to the effect that there was no "better test of the excellence of a government than the efficiency of its judicial system. . . . Law is respected and supported when it is trusted as the shield of innocence and the impartial guardian of every private civil right. . . . If the lamp of justice goes out, how great is that darkness!"

In addition to the administration of the care of neglected children, mothers' allowances and the official guardianship, there was the policing of the Province. With regard to the transfer, the Premier was waiting for just one more point to be settled before deciding. The Province had built up a force in which there had developed confidence, and in spite of the glamor which surrounded the old name of the R.C.M.P., methods had changed in these days of high power motor cars and it was a question of efficiency, from a modern standpoint. The passing of control out of the hands of the Province was the real stumbling block and the one thing to recommend the change was the economy. He doubted if the Province could go on as a Province and be content to leave the control in other hands permanently. The administration of the Liquor Act was also handled under the Attorney-General's Department.

SOME EXTRAVAGANT DEMANDS OF CRITICS.

The Department of Public Works had been criticised for its road policies, which were declared inadequate, on the ground that it had been lax on maintenance and that it did not keep the roads open in winter. It had even been suggested that they should embark on a twenty-five to fifty million dollar road policy. With a population of only 620,000 this would land them with an-

other millstone around their necks like the railways. To embark on such an enterprise with a limit to taxation would be essentially foolish. Since 1905, however, \$30,772,275 had been spent on roads, \$15,759,052 from capital account, \$8,910,387 from income account, and \$6,102,387 in interest. *Of the total amount ten millions had been spent in the last three years, or half as much as in the previous eight years.*

With regard to reconditioning, until the time came when the Province was equipped with hard surface roads there would be a bad road problem in excessively wet years.

MILEAGE OF HIGHWAYS AND MARKET ROADS.

To show the extent of the problem which Alberta had, the Premier gave the mileage. Main highways in Alberta covered 2,660 miles, while market roads covered 10,600. *This was more than in Ontario, with 3 million people and where there was a fifty million dollar revenue. Or in Quebec with 2 million people and where they received in revenue 35 million dollars.*

The Premier stated, amid great applause, that he would never allow his name to be connected with a Government which in a time when prosperity was only on the horizon went on an orgy of spending which would later be an unbearable burden on the people of the Province.

The reason why a new Education Act or a revision of the present act had not been attempted this year was because of the fact that the final copy of Dr. Tory's survey of taxation was not yet before the Government. There were a great many questions to be decided, such as the placing of the obligation of high schools where it should be placed; the better arrangement of the small school; basis of taxation; the municipal district and others. The question was broad.

People did not appreciate as they should the work of the Department of Health. The criticism had been on the purely personal equation, such as an instance of theft, food not as good as it might have been at some point, and the Innisfail incident, matters which could not disturb the equanimity of a village board of trustees. There had been an increase of over 400 per cent expenditure for health, from \$346,392 in 1916 to \$1,546,457 in 1927. This Province did more for the health of the people than any other in the Dominion, and before long all the other Provinces would be adopting the clinic idea.

The Department of Railways and Telephones came in for its mead of praise. They had been and were grappling with a difficult problem. A few short years ago they had taken action with regard to the Railways. They went into the problem with their hands tied. They had made a settlement with the Royal Bank for which they had been severely criticised, but today it was realized that if they had not made that settlement the roads would have gone to the liquidator and the Province stood to lose all.

One year ago they could neither sell nor lease these roads. The highest offer they could get for a lease of the E.D. and B.C. was \$250,000. This year they had a surplus over operation of a greater amount than that. A year ago one of the Presidents of one of the companies had stated that the only offer they could make would be so low that there would be no possibility of its acceptance. Today the Government knew more about the actual earning power of the road and the

companies knew more about the potential future of the traffic and the line was in a saleable condition.

TELEPHONES ON SOUND FINANCIAL BASIS

Passing on to telephones, there had been a storm of criticism when the Government began their policy of reorganization. They worked out their plans and there had been an increase in rates, but the result was that the business was on a sound financial basis, and the subvention asked for a year ago might be dispensed with in three years instead of ten, and the money paid back. If it was decided to dispose of the system they could realize one hundred cents on the dollar, for every dollar they had invested.

The Premier went on to note the effect this had on public ownership. Mr. White and Mr. Shaw had urged the Government to show its hand with regard to Spray Lakes. The success of any venture in public ownership depended on the confidence of the people in utilities already publicly owned. To ask the Government to undertake a proposition like the Spray Lakes before they had proved able to show a way out of the financial morass caused by the railway situation was premature. But the Government still insisted that the Province should have the license with regard to Spray Lakes independently of the expression of a present opinion, so that if in a year from now or five years from now it should be in a position to undertake the work as a Provincial venture it could do so; or if not it could at least safeguard the rights of the people in the matter by direct negotiation with any private enterprise. The Spray Lakes had been withdrawn from the Parks area, and when correspondence would finally be made public it would be seen that this Government had done its utmost for the people of the Province.

Dealing with unemployment, the Premier endorsed the views of the Conservative leader. In 1927, 91 per cent placements had been made as compared with 85 per cent. in 1926 and 68 per cent. in 1925, showing that there was an improvement in conditions. Harvest conditions had been favorable, wages being 25 per cent higher. Of 8522 harvesters 97 per cent. had bought return tickets, so that there was no appreciable congestion. He agreed also with Mr. McGillivray's suggestions: unemployment insurance of a contributory nature; labor and employee councils such as were in operation in the Provincial civil service; public works in periodic unemployment seasons as practiced in the Crow's Nest (roads could not be built in winter) and labor exchanges which were already established through the labor bureau. These things did not strike at the root, as had been suggested. The leader had said that "no matter how sound any industry at time of economic depression credit is withdrawn."

SWING OF THE PENDULUM IN AGRICULTURE.

Taking this as a text the Premier showed how it had applied to the agricultural industry. The swing of the pendulum had given agriculture a good year. He had been impressed with the words of Judge Gary—"the spirit of co-operative confidence in the future of Canada." This co-operation would have to take into consideration the future of a great industry—that of agriculture. Smokestacks and payrolls and packed warehouses in the cities were very fine things, but these would come and come

only when we had laid and laid wisely the foundation of agricultural prosperity.

There had to be purchasing power first, and even the coal production had risen and fallen with the fluctuating prosperity or non-prosperity of the farm. Concentrate on the problems of the farm, the Premier said, and industries would take care of themselves.

Steps to take in that respect were outlined as the carrying on of such education as that given at Olds, where young leaders were evolved; the encouragement of marketing agencies, and the standardization of farm products. On his trip overseas, Mr. Brownlee had been amazed at the progress of the Danish and Belgian farmer in securing the British market because of the excellence of their produce. In the United States, while wheat had netted 800 millions of dollars, the production of poultry and poultry products had brought \$1,125,000,000.

The accusation that the certification of miners had caused serious loss to operators, was a delusion. The numbers who had sat in at the exams were 8,201; 727 had failed; certificates granted were 7,474 compared to 6,464 in 1926 or 1010 more miners with certificates than in 1926. Besides, the clause had not been brought arbitrarily into effect until the first of this month. It was a case of when you don't like any legislation say it interferes with your business.

FINANCIER NEVER HEARD OF "ALBERTA LEGISLATION"

When in Britain the Premier had asked a British financier if Alberta legislation prevented his investment in Alberta ventures, only to be told by the gentleman that he had never heard of Alberta legislation. Capital goes where it is profitable, and for that reason, said the Premier, investors still put their money in British securities.

The Premier countered Joseph T. Shaw's assertion with regard to the coal tax. In effect it was true that the owners were agreeable to pay—with one exception. The tax was 5 cents per ton. It was idle to say the companies were willing when one refused and challenged the rights of the Province.

The Province still felt that there had been grave errors in the findings of the railway commission majority report on the rate question. In doing this they were reluctantly challenging the findings of a body of men sitting as a court, but the Province felt it had a right to challenge these findings. The Premier gave data on the question.

Mr. Brownlee was not fully in accord with Mr. McGillivray on the question of immigration, believing that the Dominion had primary jurisdiction and the Province only a secondary right. Steps had been taken last summer to prevent the companies bringing in more men when it was found that these were artisans and not agricultural workers at all. This was leading to the employment of these immigrants by the railways and the discharge of the better paid workers already here. This had been stopped. The Province should have the right to make adjustments with the Dominion according to the power of absorption.

Concluding with an impassioned appeal for unity on the railway question, the Premier gave the figures of earnings, surpluses or deficits which are quoted elsewhere.

GIBBS DISSOCIATES LABOR FROM PRAISE OF BALDWIN.

C. L. Gibbs, (Labor), Edmonton, paid a tribute to the late Earl Haig on behalf

of returned men. The Field Marshal's greatest victory was achieved in seeing that returned men received a square deal in the struggle for existence under what he termed a rapacious Capitalistic System.

Mr. Gibbs apologized for the seemingly discordant notes which his party created by saying that these were occasioned by the fact that Labor had solid convictions, and had to voice them. He struck one when he said that though they agreed with the references of previous speakers to royal visitors and were loyal to the throne, their loyalty was in no way extended to Premier Baldwin nor Secretary Amery. These men were the sworn arch-enemies of Labor, and he was sure that his group's loyalty to the throne was not imperilled by their disloyalty to Baldwin any more than the Conservative leader's would be by disloyalty to Mackenzie King. He wanted to dissociate himself and his group from the paeans of praise to the British Premier.

SYMPATHY WITH EMPEROR NERO.

After touching regretfully on the delay foreshadowed with regard to Old Age Pensions, Mr. Gibbs congratulated the Premier on his preparations for town planning. The terrible misfits found all over the country which had been set down by speculators and went by the name of towns, made him understand Nero, and his sympathies were with the Emperor. Perhaps Mr. Brownlee was going to be a second Nero.

Environment furnished an educational influence more than schools or books for the growing child, for this kind of education was absorbed unconsciously as they went up and down the streets or in and out of their houses. All attempts at cultural education were baffled so long as environment was more or less sordid.

Analysing the groups, Mr. Gibbs created some mirth as well as sober reflections when he said the Conservatives did not conceal where they stood; you could think you knew where the Liberals were; but as the young tree across the way had not had sufficient time to come to fruition he was not quite sure yet whether it would prove to be an orange or a lemon.

He complimented Mr. Parkyn of Calgary on the result of his many years' sowing seed, which had been rewarded at last by the conversion of the Conservative Leader. It was a hard and dismal trail yet though for the disciple to take before he could approximate the master.

The member regretted the failure to deal decisively with the matter of mutual fire insurance, saying that it was ably shown last year that the principle was worthy of adoption. He dealt comprehensively with various other matters, including the suggested repeal of the land grant to the Hudson's Bay Co. asking if it had been considered at the Dominion conference; a graduated land tax; cadet training; education and the Provincial railways.

A student who had failed in all the subjects he took at school wired his brother: "Failed in all five subjects. Prepare papa."

The brother telegraphed back: "Papa prepared. Prepare yourself."—Life.

Alice: "Why do they have knots on the ocean instead of miles?"

Skipper: "Well, you see, they couldn't have the ocean tide if there were no knots."—Open Door.

Financial Bogey in Regard to Roads Is Laid Low at Last

O. L. McPherson Gives Facts—Premier
Corrects Misstatement re Coal—
Never Advocated Subsidy

THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 9.—One of the financial bogeys which has been stalking the editorial columns of Provincial newspapers for a matter of the past three years or so, stumbled on to the floor of the Assembly to be laid to earth at the hand of the Minister of Public Works this afternoon. Only two speakers participated, George Webster (Lib.), Calgary, who introduced the bogey, and the Minister referred to, who replied. The whole argument arose out of the simple fact that statements made by the Government and statements made on the same subject by the Calgary Liberal, covered different periods of time insofar as at least one item was concerned. The bogey itself was one with which every member of the U.F.A. is familiar; namely, that this Government levied taxes on gasoline and motor vehicles, and instead of spending this money on road maintenance, diverted fifty per cent of it to general revenue to be expended on other services.

VERY SERIOUS MISCALCULATION

The Minister pointed out that this was a serious miscalculation. Mr. Webster's charge had been that Mr. McCool had made the statement that in the last three years, 1924-5-6, the sum of \$3,985,669.07 had been collected from gasoline and motor vehicles and in the same period, \$3,963,595.13 had been taken from income account (gasoline tax and motor vehicle revenue) and spent on roads, bridges, maintenance and ferries, together with interest on past capital expenditures and that in addition some \$6,600,000.00 had been spent on roads out of capital account; the member from Calgary charged that the computation was wrong, and that in the past three years \$2,448,863.09 had been diverted to general revenue from these two tax incomes.

The Minister pointed out that while figures quoted by Mr. Webster showing the actual disbursements during each of these three years were substantially correct, he had omitted one vital thing—INTEREST ON PAST CAPITAL EXPENDITURES. These went back to before 1921. Mr. Webster's figures only dealt with the three years mentioned. The Minister assured the Assembly that the figures given by the member from Cochrane (Mr. McCool) were absolutely correct, and if there were any doubts in the minds of members opposite he was absolutely willing that the Public Accounts Committee be called and a thorough investigation made. The actual sum transferred to general revenue from income account (gasoline and motor vehicles tax) was only \$22,073.94.

WHERE WEBSTER MADE A HIT

Thus fell another talking point. Nevertheless the member from Calgary made a good hit when he said he accepted the Premier's sentiments about co-operation, not only on the railway question, on which he and the members of his group

(Continued on page 30)

NEWS FROM THE HEAD OFFICE of the ALBERTA LIVESTOCK POOL

Official Information for Members of the Alberta Co-operative Livestock Producers, Ltd.

A.C.L.P. is Now Largest Livestock Organization

Far Outdistances Nearest Competitor in
Alberta—Can Handle 50 % More
At About Same Expense

POOL'S EFFICIENT MACHINERY FOR ALBERTA PRODUCERS

The first month's business of the Alberta Co-operative Live Stock Producers Ltd. through their own selling agency at Calgary and Edmonton is complete, and the summary in the adjoining column shows the volume and percentage of business done.

The Alberta Co-operative Live Stock Producers is the largest handling organization of livestock in this Province at the present time, but a great deal of benefit could be derived by increasing this volume. Our staffs at Calgary and Edmonton can handle 50 per cent. more business than they are doing with practically the same expense, which in itself would mean much for efficiency and economy. The control of 50 per cent. more business would mean more influence and more strength in our meeting the buyers on the market and establishing prices.

Cattle Situation Gives Promise

The cattle situation at the present time is one that gives considerable promise for the producers. The cattle population of both Canada and United States, as is shown in the table at the foot of this page, in on the decrease, and during this period of short production cattle prices cannot help but be high.

Farmers generally, are making a grave mistake in this Province, in allowing the drovers to gain control of their cattle. Cattle offer more opportunity for a co-operative to give service to the producers at the present time than any other class of farm stock. Drovers because of the great expense of collecting it, risk involved, etc., must of necessity work on a large margin and it is not uncommon to see cattle bought by the drovers, return them from \$20 to \$30 per head more than the farmer received.

The Co-operative Association handling the stock at cost for the producer puts no cost against the animals which the drover is not forced to pay, the freight

Receipts at Stockyards of Calgary and Edmonton January 1928

Showing Comparative Standing of Alberta Co-operative Live Stock Producers, Ltd.

	Calgary	Per Cent	Edmonton	Per Cent
No. of Firms on Yard.....	8		4	
No. Cars Handled on Yard.....	432		337	
No. Cars Handled A.C.L.P.....	165*	38.2	129	38.3
No. Cars handled by nearest competitor.	86	19.9	104	30.9

*Including Direct Shipments.

feed, yardage and commission, which are the same in both cases. The cattle are sold regardless of whether they are sold through your co-operative organization or by the drover to the same buyers—the packers—and the same level of price is received by one as by the other.

Where The Difference Lies

The difference is that with the co-operative selling of cattle, the full value, less the expense, goes back to the producer, while in the case of the drover, the farmer only gets whatever price he can get the drover to agree to give him. In agreeing on price, the drover has great the advantage of closer touch with the market and greater experience in judging quality and weight. The very fact that the drovers continue in business demonstrates that they are able to take care of themselves.

With the immediate future of cattle prices assured a great benefit can accrue to the cattle raisers of this Province, if they will make a determined effort to market their cattle to the very best advantage. The machinery for marketing it is already provided for the cattle producers of this Province through the Alberta Co-operative Live Stock Producers, Ltd. The support of the producers themselves will be the determining factor upon which the degree of success of the A.C.L.P. will depend in terms of better prices.

ONTARIO TO ORGANIZE POOL

Definite approval has been given by Ontario farmers to the formation of a Livestock Pool, similar to the present

Wheat Pools, according to announcement made by the directors of the United Farmers' Co-operative Company, Limited, following a two-day conference which was attended by delegates from every county in the Province. The Pool will operate chiefly in the hog business for the present.

Marketing will be under contract, the form of which has not yet been definitely decided, but which will probably be on a five-year basis. Selling will be done through a central selling agency.

HOW IT HAPPENED

"It was very plucky of you, ma'am, to have set upon the burglar and so ably captured him," said the police inspector. "But need you have injured his so badly?"

"How did I know it was a burglar?" asked the woman. "I'd been up three hours waitin' for my husband. I thought it was him."—*Til Bits.*

Recommend Many Changes in the Compensation Act

Will Permit Farmers to Take Advantage
of Act on Their Own Freewill

(Staff Correspondence)

EDMONTON, Feb. 9.—The special committee appointed last year to inquire into and make recommendations regarding the whole matter of workmen's compensation, has certainly made a good job of it and a great number of very important changes are suggested. Reviewing the changes suggested, as shown in the report of the committee tabled in the Assembly recently, some of the more important are the recommendation that the clauses in the present act excluding the running trades be deleted, and that another clause be inserted including all railway workers.

Voluntary Inclusion of Farmers

Another suggestion is that the act be amended to provide for the inclusion voluntarily of farmers and ranchers. Teamsters are to be brought within the scope of the act, provided the relationship of master and servant exists.

Funeral expenses of a deceased injured worker are recommended to be

Cattle Populations of Canada and U.S.A.

U.S.A.	1927	1926	1920
Dairy Cattle.....	25,900,000	26,000,000	25,800,000
Other Cattle and Calves.....	31,600,000	33,000,000	43,000,000
Total.....	57,500,000	59,000,000	68,800,000
Decrease from 1920.....	11,300,000	9,800,000	
Canada			
Milch Cattle.....	4,495,000	4,510,000	3,500,000
Other Cattle and Calves.....	4,675,000	4,060,000	6,070,000
Total.....	9,170,000	8,570,000	9,570,000
Decrease from 1920.....	400,000	1,000,000	

increased from \$100 to \$125. Compensation for permanent disability is to be increased from 62½ per cent. of the average weekly earnings to 66 and two thirds,—the average to be computed where possible on the earnings of the previous twelve months instead of the rather indefinite "any number of weeks" which is the rule at present.

The inclusion of clinical hernia is dealt with and recommendations made to the effect that after demonstration of disability the workman must be operated on for radical cure within two weeks after the occurrence, and the period of disability shall not exceed forty-two days, after the operation; that is if there are no complications arising out of the operation.

Provision is made for the continuance of the diagnostic clinic of the University as a medical board of review, giving both employer and employee the right to attend during reviewal.

Frostbite to be Provided For

Frost bite during the execution of duty is a compensatable disease. A number of new industrial diseases are recommended for acceptance, including glanders resulting from the care of any animal affected.

Commercial greenhouses and hotels are recommended for inclusion, while retail establishments and restaurants are recommended for inclusion by proclamation.

A good many recommendations are made with regard to accident prevention and a recommendation is made that the Government should review the entire question of existing legislation governing accident prevention.

Strict enforcement of provisions regarding neglect of safety devices by the worker, and of the clauses governing first aid and transportation to the hospital by the employer, are strongly urged.

The report is very comprehensive, and many of the recommendations will be embodied in the new bill to come up later if gossip around the corridors is of any value.

That operations under the Workmen's Compensation Act were on a more extensive scale in 1927 than on previous years was shown by the report tabled on the opening day. Claims presented to the Board numbered 10,149, making a record.

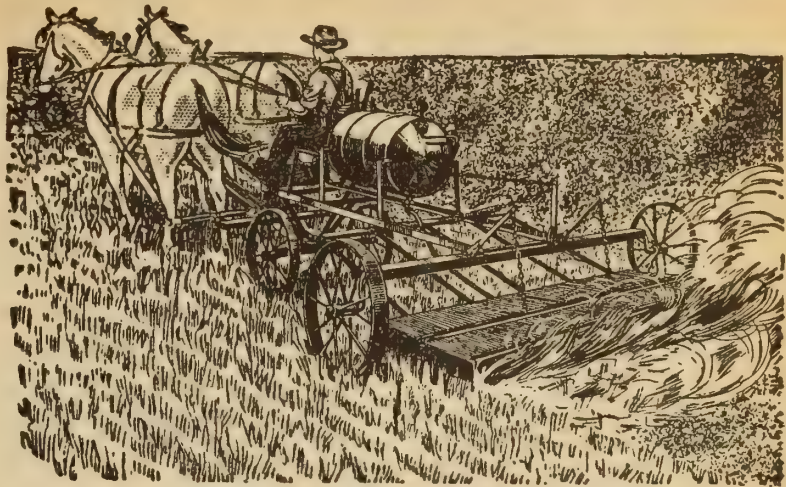
The report, which is very voluminous, shows among other things, that monies set aside for contingencies had a net increase of \$175,839.68, bringing the total disaster reserve up to \$261,193.00.

Out of a levy of \$1,053,456.08, the sum of \$995,585.92 was actually collected, \$42,839.79 cancelled, leaving a balance of \$15,030.37 unpaid at December, 1927.

Two hundred and one widows and 397 children of deceased workmen, as well as 244 workmen who had met with permanent disabilities, were receiving monthly payments. The pension fund was augmented by the transference of \$415,422.42 from the accident fund. The credit balance of the pension fund amounts now to \$1,838,439.43.

The consolidated statement of revenue and expenditure showed that expenditures exceeded revenue by \$10,343.78. The accident fund showed excess expenditure over revenue of \$42,234.38, while on the other hand medical aid, which is a contributory feature of the act, shows that receipts exceed expenditure to the tune of \$31,890.60.

WHEN YOU BURN YOUR STUBBLE WITH A WESTERN STUBBLE BURNER



YOU ARE SURE OF A CLEAN BURN AT A SMALL COST.

The WESTERN is very easy to operate. Its fire is steady and very strong. You have perfect control from the driver's seat. It is easily pulled by two horses.

Notice how quickly fields are burned off with the WESTERN. The Stubble is all gone and the fire has killed the weed seeds on the surface. It leaves the land in condition to make an ideal seed bed. This means a cleaner and better crop.

You can control the weeds and produce better crops by using the WESTERN STUBBLE BURNER. It means more profit.

You cannot afford to gamble with weeds and stubble burning any longer. WESTERN STUBBLE BURNERS are made in two sizes: 8 ft. sells at \$195.00 and 16 ft. sells at \$295.00—F.O.B. Regina.

Have yours ready to start the first day your stubble will burn.

Manufactured and sold by

WESTERN IMPLEMENTS LIMITED

1200 Scarth St.

Regina, Sask.

Long Service

THE Imperial Bank was founded during the period when farming constituted almost the whole industrial life of Canada. City streets were once thronged on Market Day and the teams waited at every post.

Times change—the hitching post has gone—but the farming industry can never be superseded. Every day is market day now, and the farmer is a business man and a student of markets.

The Bank has always regarded the farming industry as of prime importance and will give every consideration to the interests of its farmer clients.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

189 Branches in Dominion of Canada.

Assets of One Hundred and Thirty-five Millions

Interests of the United Farm Women

Is The U.F.W.A. Worth While?

Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Farm Women:

The other day I was asked, if, after travelling about as I had this year, I considered the U. F. W. A. really worth while. I wish I could make you feel how very worth while I consider it.

In the first place I always think that the gathering together of women for a social cause is a good thing. Man, they say, is essentially a social animal, and I always say "and woman even more so!" To the farm woman busy at home and often very tired, it is so easy to plan to go "some day" and visit a neighbor, whereas if the regular date of the meeting is set, we feel it rather a duty to attend and make ourselves go. To me, the average country woman cannot be reproved for running away from home too often, but rather going to the other extreme and staying there too much. When we stay there too steadily our mental horizon gets very limited and our cares and worries loom as very large in the world. Whereas when we get out and find that Mrs. Brown has had just as exasperating occurrences in her house, and Mrs. White's children have not been at all well, and Mrs. Gray has had just as bad luck with the poultry as we, and possibly a few other calamities as well, we feel that perhaps after all we are not the only martyrs on the earth.

Our Horizon Extended

There is the pleasure too of seeing Mrs. Black's new dress—that is if there has been a crop—and some one else has another bit of good fortune and all the little interchange of items of interest in the neighborhood. Our horizon has at least reached outside of the house to the district.

When in addition to the social feature there is combined the educational and the idea of service, then the gathering together becomes very much more worth while. Besides hearing of the neighbors and their children and chickens, their good fortune and ill luck, we want to go further afield and get to be better informed women not only on topics relative to our household work, but on public life in the school, the municipality, the Province, the Dominion and the world at large. We want to try and find out the part we should play, no matter how small, in the world in which we are living.

The lives of women have altered so much in the past few generations that in some ways we have to be quite different women from our ancestors. In the story of "Marie Chapdelaine" by Louis Hemon, for instance, we have a very interesting picture of pioneer Habitant life, and we see the splendid qualities that life developed in the Mother. Marie's only problem to solve seemed to be which of the two suitors she should marry after her lover was lost in the storm, for the kindly priest had told her after a time that it was her duty to marry and not to mourn.

Change From Pioneer Days

The hardships of pioneering must have developed many sterling qualities and many capabilities that our easier physical life of today possibly does not call for nor develop if needed. The ideal

woman and citizen then was a good wife and a good mother, and no more was expected because her responsibilities ended there. Today, however, our lives are so much more inter-dependent that we can not live to ourselves and be doing our duty in life. Better means of railway and steamship travel, motors, newspapers, the telephone and the radio have enlarged our connections, our interests and our influence.

We have shed many responsibilities, we no longer have to master the crafts of spinning and weaving; in fact in these days of ready-mades, we can even do with little sewing. In sickness we send for trained help or the patients are taken to the hospital. We can buy many foods that make our work easier; the creameries, the packers and the canners all help us in emergencies.

Responsibilities Changed—Not Fewer

This should not mean that we have fewer responsibilities, it simply means that they are different, and to be ideal women and citizens today, we must know more about our complex world and its problems than we did, especially when we asked for the responsibility of equal suffrage. *We should consider it just as much a lack if we know nothing about our public duties as our grandmother would have considered it to have neglected any of the branches of her house work.* And again I say where can we find a better place to study these problems than in our U.F.W.A.? Are we not organized "to promote social intercourse, a higher standard of community life and for the study of economic and social questions bearing on our interests as farmers and citizens"?

I can truly say it seemed to me that where I met women who were organized for mutual improvement they seemed as a gathering of women more business-like, more able to know how to do what they desired for others and to have a broader outlook on life. Probably with my great love for the U.F.W.A. I can not give an unprejudiced opinion, but I do feel that our organization with its comprehensive aims and broad outlook has helped and is helping the farm women of Alberta as no other organization could.

Yours sincerely,

"U.F.W.A."

Activities of the U.F.W.A.

OFFICERS VETERAN U.F.W.A.

Veteran U.F.W.A. Local elected as officers for the coming year Mrs. S. Wraight, Mrs. M. Witt and Mrs. Wilson.

WAPITI OFFICERS

Mrs. F. Ramsfield, Mrs. E. D. Brown and Mrs. Norman Talbot are the officers of Wapiti U.F.W.A. Local this year.

CALGARY U.F.W.A. LOCAL

Mrs. Briggs gave a very interesting report of the Convention to the last meeting of the Calgary U.F.W.A. Local, held at Central Office. Miss Bateman, treasurer, announced that receipts from

the Silver Tea at the Convention had covered expenses. A vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Sibbald for the splendid way in which she had managed the musical program. Following the meeting tea was served.

HOLBORN ELECTS OFFICERS

Mrs. H. McKinnon is president of Holborn U.F.W.A. Local for 1928, and Mrs. J. F. Kimmerly vice-president. The secretary will be elected at a later meeting.

AT FAIRDONIAN VALLEY

The features of the last meeting of Fairdonian Valley U.F.W.A. were the report of the delegate to the Annual Convention, Mrs. Weber, and a guessing contest, "Nuts to Crack," arranged by the hostess, Mrs. D. F. McDonald.

TO VISIT THE SICK

Energetic U.F.W.A. Local are holding a series of card parties at the homes of members, to add to the funds of the Local. In addition to the regular officers, Mrs. Harris and Mrs. M. E. Hummel, a committee was appointed to visit the sick of the district.

BEDDINGTON OFFICERS

Mrs. Geo. Wall, Mrs. M. Ard and Mrs. H. Banderob are the officers for Beddington U.F.W.A. Local for 1928. This Local reports an active and successful year in 1927. The raffling of a tea cloth brought in \$66, while several dances and a play held during the year also added to the Local funds.

GRIMSHAW SPRING PROGRAM

The program for the spring meetings of Grimshaw U.F.W.A. Local will be as follows: February, Convention Reports, Demonstration of puff paste by Mrs. A. B. Smith; March, Social evening; April, address by the president; May, address by Mrs. Kent; June, talk on "Art" by Mrs. Lawrence.

ROSEWOOD U.F.W.A. LOCAL

At the January meeting of Rosewood U.F.W.A. Local, held at the home of Miss Tostevin, the roll call was answered with poetical quotations, and Mrs. Wetmore gave an interesting reading on keeping poultry. Mrs. A. Crawford, Mrs. J. Peake and Miss Mary Tostevin are the officers.

OKOTOKS U.F.W.A. ORGANIZED

Okotoks U.F.W.A. Local was organized early in the year with 19 paid-up members. The officers are Mrs. F. J. Gough, and Mrs. K. Anderson Bell. Meetings will be held at the Country Club Rooms on the same day as the U.F.A. meeting. "We hope to arrange some joint meetings," states Mrs. Bell, "and to co-operate in the social evenings."

WINDY HILL ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting of Windy Hill U.F.W.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. A. E. McWilliams, officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Mrs. McWilliams; vice-president, Mrs. Kelly, secretary, Mrs. Thompson. Five directors were also elected, as well as program, finance, and music committees,

while at the following meeting a hospital committee was appointed.

Meetings were held each month during the year at the members' homes, except September, when owing to the state of the roads there was no meeting. The Local also held a pie social, whist drive and dance, two other dances (one substituted for the picnic, on account of the uncertain weather) and a sewing demonstration.

The members made a quilt which was raffled and brought in the sum of \$58.45. The sum of \$92 was donated to the Woods Orphan Home. The proceeds of one of the dances were given to the Junior Red Cross, and \$5 was sent to the Junior Conference Fund.

The bulletins from the U.F.W.A. Directors were read and discussed at the meetings throughout the year. S. Brown, M.L.A. gave an address at the May meeting, and interesting talks were given during the year by Mrs. Lind and Mrs. Watt.

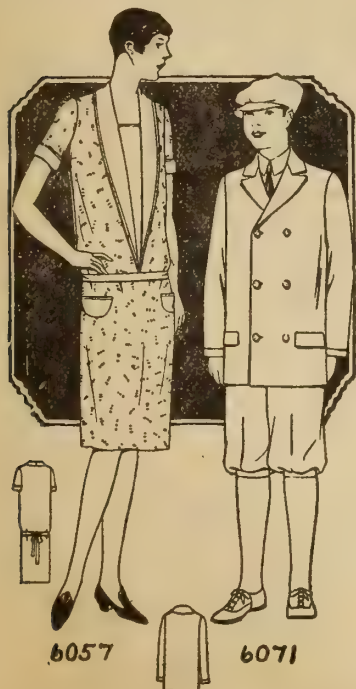
Windy Hill Local are now putting on a series of entertainments to raise money for the purchase of a piano for the community hall.

U.F.A. AND U.F.W.A. UNITED

Mrs. D. Wood, secretary of Byemoor U.F.W.A. Local, writes that the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Locals at that point have decided to unite, and have since held two successful joint meetings. The women still wish to receive U.F.W.A. Bulletins.

The U.F.A. Pattern Department

Send orders to *The U.F.A. Pattern Department*, Loughheed Bldg., Calgary. Allow ten days for receipt of pattern. Be sure to give name, address, size and number of pattern required.



6057. Ladies' Morning Frock.

Cut in 6 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size requires 3 yards of 36 inch material together with 1 3-8 yard of contrasting material. The width of the Dress at the lower edge is 1 3-8

*More
please!*

Do not deny your children delicious Ogilvie Oats—the one health food they'll never tire of. Makes bone—Makes muscle—Supplies abundant energy for work and play.



OGILVIE OATS

The perfect breakfast for growing children and grown-ups. Request your dealer to give you Ogilvie Oats.

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MILLS AT:
WINNIPEG, MEDICINE HAT, EDMONTON

"MAKE THE GARDEN PAY"

is the title of a new 80-page booklet which the Bank of Montreal has issued and is now distributing free to all who ask for a copy.

This booklet is one of a series distributed by the Bank for the benefit of the farming interests of Canada. It contains practical, scientific and experience-tested advice and suggestions on how to make a vegetable garden pay. It is dedicated to the idea of "An acre garden on every farm in Canada."

A free copy of this valuable booklet is waiting for you at our nearest Branch. Ask for it by mail, telephone, or in person.

BANK OF MONTREAL

Established 1817

Total Assets in excess of \$830,000,000





Warm the liniment and bathe the throat and chest. For cold in the head inhale Minard's.

Minard's gives quick relief.
Always keep it handy. 47



FASHION BOOK NOTICE

Send 15c in silver or stamps for our UP-TO-DATE SPRING AND SUMMER 1928 BOOK OF FASHIONS, showing color plates, and containing 500 designs of Ladies' Misses' and Children's Patterns, a CONCISE and COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON DRESS-MAKING, ALSO SOME POINTS FOR THE NEEDLE (illustrating 30 of the various, simple stitches) all valuable hints to the home dress-maker

"The U.F.A." Pattern Dept.

Lougheed Bldg.

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Use MAGIC BAKING POWDER



in all your
baking~
That's the way
to assure
success.

Made in Canada
No Alum

E. W. GILLET CO. LTD.
TORONTO, CAN.

yard. To finish with bias binding as illustrated will require 3 1-8 yards. Price 15c.

6071. Boys' Jacket.

Cut in 5 Sizes: 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. A 12 year size requires 1 1/2 yard of 54 inch material. Price 15c.

Seasonable Recipes

By A. M. CORDELIA

When the hens begin to lay well, you may like to try this "different" way of serving eggs.

Baked Eggs with Peas. Make a thick white sauce by mixing 4 heaping table-spoons flour with 1/2 cup milk; add liquid from 1 can of peas and milk to make 4 cups; boil together for a minute or two, add 2 tablespoons butter or good dripping, salt and pepper; mix with peas; pour into a shallow baking dish, drop in 6 to 8 eggs, whole, not letting them touch each other. Sprinkle with salt, paprika, and small bits of butter. Bake half hour in a moderate oven. Canned beans or asparagus may be used in place of the peas.

Hot Cakes. Delicious for Sunday breakfasts in spring or in winter, if eggs are plentiful enough. Beat 3 eggs, add 1/2 cup sugar, 3 tablespoons melted butter, 3 scant cups milk, a pinch of salt; mix 2 cups white flour, 1/2 cup rye or whole wheat flour, 1/2 cup cornmeal, 3 teaspoons baking powder; stir into liquid mixture gradually, beat until very smooth; cook in iron frying pan or griddle, greasing only enough to prevent sticking. These are best, to Canadian or American appetites, with maple syrup, though a good substitute can be made with brown sugar and water and a very little maple flavoring; while some Old Country people prefer syrups made from fruit juices.

Stettler Program of U.F.W.A. for 1928

The following program has been prepared by Stettler U.F.W.A. Local for 1928, according to a report from Mrs. J. H. Drysdale, secretary:

February 2.—Dinner; Reports of Delegates. February 18.—Valentine Contest; "Home Decoration," Mrs. T. Heck and Mrs. Rhineberg.

March 3.—Roll call, Favorite Flowers; "Gardening," Mrs. Wagner. March 17.—Roll call, Irish Jokes; "Immigration," Mrs. Drysdale.

April.—Roll call, egg recipes; "Canadian Industries," Mrs. Brooks.

May.—Roll call, sayings about mothers; "Child Welfare," Mrs. A. Six.

June.—Roll call, prominent names in education; "Education," Mrs. Patrick.

July.—Roll call, canning recipes; "Canning," Mrs. Knoll.

August.—Roll call, Christian names and meanings; "Young People," Mrs. Judd.

September.—Roll call, household hints; "Co-operation," Mrs. Thorlinson.

October 6.—Roll call, Simple Remedies; "Health," Mrs. E. Heck; October 26.—Roll call, Favorite Colors; "Social Service," Mrs. J. R. Van Kleeck.

November 3.—Roll call, jokes on lawyers; "Legislation," Mrs. Thompson. November 17.—Roll call, verse from Canadian poet; Paper on Canadian Authors.

December 8.—Roll call, Christmas suggestions; Election of Officers; Christmas tree.

Current Events will also be given at each meeting. Hostesses for the meetings will be taken as they come in order on the 1928 roll call.

U. F. A. Junior Activities

Watchword: SERVICE

Motto: EQUITY

Prepare for the Junior Conference

Dear Juniors:

Now that the excitement of the Senior Convention has died down, the next thing on the horizon to which we all turn our thoughts is the Junior Conference.

Of course, it is too early to have any of the details of what this year's Conference will be like, but it certainly isn't too early for the young people in the Locals to be devising ways and means of raising funds for the purpose of sending delegates. If you sent one delegate last year—see if you can't increase the number this. By putting on Novelty dances, entertainments, plays, sales of home-made articles—the girls making fancy work and cakes, the boys little articles in wood or wicker work—sufficient money for this purpose could be raised in almost any community. Don't forget that you hold at the most only two meetings a month and there is only about three months to the time of the Conference.

And that your Secretary may report a really large increase in membership—a number such as the Junior Branch should have—put on a membership drive for the next three or four months. Divide

your Local into teams—the losing team to provide a supper or entertainment for the rest. See that every boy and girl in your community is invited to attend your meetings and take part in them, and make your meetings so interesting that they will come again.

And don't forget to prepare for the Efficiency Contest. We have a new banner this year, the Loyalty Juniors having won the last for two consecutive years and it is now a permanent possession. This year we are including keeping in touch with Central Office in the questionnaire, as we feel that it is a very important part of the work of a Local.

We will write, from time to time, during the next three months, fuller details of the Contest and the University Week, but this is a reminder that the time is fast approaching, and we hope every Local will not only send delegates to the Conference, but will send someone prepared to take part in the Reading Course Scholarship Contest, and that every Local will also take part in the Efficiency Contest.

Fraternally yours,
EDNA M. HULL,
Secretary.

The Convention from a Junior's Standpoint

The U.F.A. Annual Convention of 1928 was the first one to which Junior delegates were invited, and my opinion is that those Juniors enjoyed it as much as the Seniors did.

Some people thought that we would find it rather dull and dry, and that we would not be able to understand it, but I must say that this was altogether the wrong idea.

Although I will admit that some of the resolutions were uninteresting to listen to, and a little difficult to understand, the rest we liked very much.

Speaking for myself, I enjoyed most of all, the talks given by several of the speakers, and the discussion which followed. These were very lively in some cases.

Several of the Junior delegates and myself noticed especially, the spirit of good fellowship that prevailed. I don't think anyone felt lonely or left out. This was my first Convention, and before I went, I was wondering if I should have only myself to talk to during sessions, but such was not the case, because I made several friends, who were well worth knowing.

Another thing which we Juniors enjoyed, was the importance that was attached to us. We were always thought of and were given a place, where we could hear everything, and so give our attention to how things were carried on.

But I now come to our most pleasant event of the whole week, which was the Junior banquet arranged for us by Miss Hull, and at which we were especially honored by the President of the U.F.A., Mr. H. W. Wood.

Mr. Wood had laid aside other engagements to come to our banquet. His comment, when given the invitation, was that he was still a boy at heart, and wished to dine with the Juniors.

During this time that we had to ourselves, we had a very fine discussion about our Locals. Mr. Wood asked us questions, which made it easy to talk, and the result being that everybody had something to say about their own Local, and to learn new ideas from the others.

So, in conclusion, I found that this Convention was very profitable and inspiring from many points of view.

RUTH LAMBERT.

NEW MEMBERS JOIN UP

At the last meeting of the Dalemead Juniors, when twenty-five members turned out, the President, Ralph Coonfer, made a strong appeal for new members and eight Juniors joined up. Charlie Hornstra spoke to the members on U.F.A. work.

ROSEWOOD ANNUAL MEETING

The Rosewood Juniors held their annual meeting January the 18th, and elected the following officers: President, Muriel Crawford; Vice-President, Robert Bownes; Secretary, Hugh Bownes. Five new members were secured bringing their membership up to seventeen. A very successful dance was held on January 20th.

HASTINGS COULEE OFFICERS

The officers elected by the Hastings Coulee Juniors for 1928 are: President, Walter Henderson; Vice-President, Carl Mallett; Secretary, Aldine Stenson. The Hastings Coulee Juniors are conducting a



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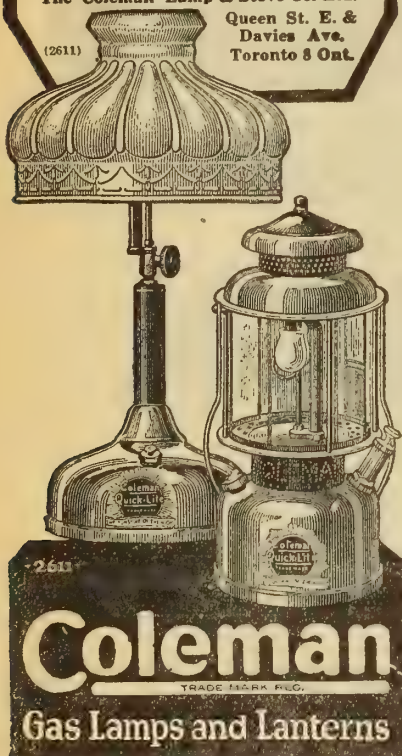
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local newspaper which they have named "The Junior U.F.A. Eye Opener," and which causes a great deal of fun at each of the meetings. A very successful social evening was held January 20th, at which \$61.85 was realized.

DELBURNE JUNIORS

Delburne Juniors proved that 13 is not such an unlucky number after all, for their dance on that evening proved such a success that they are planning another for next month. \$37.40 was cleared at this dance. The hall was tastefully decorated in scarlet and emerald, and the Junior girls wore crepe paper dresses made in many quaint styles. The Novelty Stall created much of the fun of the evening, but the novelty dances in which streamers, confetti and balloons played a great part also contributed much to the gayety. These active young people are now planning a play.

BAPTISTE LAKE JUNIORS

"The dance put on by this Local January 27th was a great success both socially and financially," writes their Secretary, Miss Mable Jamieson. At their last meeting the roll call was answered by naming a famous man and what he did. It was also decided that a Birthday Party should be held February 21st. They are holding a debate at the next meeting, the subject to be, "Resolved that boys should learn to cook."

ARDENODE ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting of the Ardenode Juniors officers for the year were elected as follows: President, C. Dawson; Vice-President, Winnifred James; Secretary-Treasurer, Francis Booth; Auditor, Harold Horrocks; Supervisor, Mrs. Geo. Dawson. When the business of the meeting was dispatched, the young people enjoyed a social evening. The U.F.W.A. are putting on a Ghost Social on St. Patrick's Day, with the Juniors taking part in the program, the object being to raise funds for University Week.

LOCKHART JUNIORS

At the last meeting of the Lockhart Juniors six new members joined up. Arrangements are being made for the holding of a play. The committee in charge of this is headed by James Robson, with two others to help. A local paper is being planned, with James Fraser as editor, and each member contributing. The collection of fines for failure to take part in the evening's program amounted to forty-five cents, and the supper collection \$3.70.

WISHES AND YEARS

"A Girl of To-day," writing in a morning paper, wishes she was fifty. Lots of girls of to-day are.—Punch.

THE BOY KNEW

A teacher, conducting her pupils through an art museum, stopped in front of Rodin's famous statue, "The Thinker." She asked them what they thought he was thinking of.

"Oh, I know," replied one little boy. "He's been swimming and can't remember where he put his clothes."

EXCUSABLE

Tall Feather, an Indian Chief, is reported to have run from Chicago to Milwaukee, a distance of eighty-five miles, in nineteen hours. We don't blame him.—Punch.

The World Situation in Sheep and Wool

(From Foreign Crops and Markets)

Increased demand, accompanied by rising prices and keen competition, characterize the present situation in foreign wool markets. As the current season has advanced, consuming countries have given evidence of ability to absorb more wool than was taken last year, when the upward trend in demand became clearly marked. The result has been fairly regular strengthening of the primary markets, which has been reflected in most important countries. In the leading wool producing countries, however, available supplies are materially below those of last season. Both production estimates and stocks at the beginning of the season have been under those of last year, when stocks were very low. The volume of wool entering international trade in recent years has been increasing, but up to 1926 the total volume was still considerably below the average figure for the period 1909-1913. World sheep production shows some tendency toward increased flocks, especially in Europe. In important wool exporting countries, however, lambing conditions have not been especially favorable for material increase in 1928.

World Sheep Production

Sheep numbers in 18 countries reporting at the beginning or in the summer of 1927 reached a total of 361,375,000, an increase of 3 per cent over 1926 and 6 per cent over pre-war. These countries, which in pre-war times produced about one-half of the world's sheep, have been steadily building up their flocks during recent years. The number of breeding ewes in the United States and certain European countries for which figures are available for 1927 is estimated at 62,898,000 compared with 58,868,000 in 1926, an increase of 7 per cent, which indicates that there will probably be a further increase in sheep numbers in those countries in 1928. While an increase in breeding ewes indicates an increase in those countries in 1928, reports of lambing in New South Wales, Australia, and in Argentina, which support about one-seventh of the world's sheep, have not been very satisfactory.

The preliminary estimate of sheep numbers in Australia on January 1st, 1927, is 103,000,000 or 563,000 below the revised 1926 figure, and a still further reduction in 1928 is not improbable as due to continued drought in Queensland and drought conditions in New South Wales during most of 1927.

For New South Wales, which supports about one-half of the sheep in Australia, no estimate is as yet available for June, 1927. In August the *Pastoral Review* reported heavy losses of sheep at shearing time due to bitter cold weather. In addition, it was stated that very few of the autumn and early winter (March-August) lambs are estimated to be alive. This year it is expected that the lambing will be far below average, according to Dalgety and Company Ltd. The number on June 30th, 1926, was estimated at 53,860,000, an increase of 14 per cent in all sheep, over 1925. Sheep in New South Wales, according to official revised figures, have been increasing steadily since 1920, with the single exception of the year 1923.

Drought in Queensland

In the state of Queensland, which in normal times has a little over one-fifth

of the number of sheep in Australia, drought conditions have been prevalent for two years. Instead of a natural increase in 1926 there was a decrease of approximately 4,000,000 from 20,663,000 on December, 31st, 1925 to 16,965,000 on December 31st, 1926. As there was a continued droughty condition from that date up to October, at least, Consul Rankin at Newcastle believes that still further decreases have undoubtedly occurred. An unofficial estimate of sheep losses in Australia due to drought is 8,000,000 in Queensland, 1,000,000 in the western half of New South Wales, and 1,000,000 in the remainder of Australia, states Consul T. H. Robinson at Melbourne under date of September 7th, 1927. The 8,000,000 decrease in Queensland is probably for the two year period of drought, i. e., about 4,000,000 during the first year as supported by official figures and probably about that many in 1927.

In New Zealand the number of sheep in April, 1927 is reported at 25,649,000, an increase of 3 per cent over 1926. Lambing returns for 1927 are not as yet available but lambing percentages were reported by the *Pastoral Review* as very satisfactory. Rain and snow in some districts were reported as severe on young lambs.

Increase in South Africa

Notwithstanding reported sheep losses in the Union of South Africa on account of the drought, the official estimates for June, 1927, indicate a substantial increase over 1925. No estimate is available for 1926. Losses on account of disease, drought, vermin, theft and missing for the year from July 1st, 1926, to June, 30th, 1927, are estimated at only 2,150,835.

No official estimate of the number of sheep in Argentina has been made since 1922, while the last official estimate for Uruguay was made in 1924. The lambing in Argentina this season was not very successful. Mortality caused by the drought during the lambing season was excessive, according to a report of Messrs. Gibson Brothers in the *Review of the River Plate*, November 11th, 1927. Various districts reported short lambing and the loss of new born lambs was also heavy. This, together with the fact that there was a 26 per cent increase in sheep slaughterings during the first 10 months of the year makes a combination of factors suggestive of a new and positive decrease in sheep numbers. Sheep in Uruguay are in fine condition and the lambing season has been highly successful, according to the monthly Review of the Bank of London and South America, Ltd.

There still seems to be a tendency to increase sheep numbers in the United States and Canada.

SOME SCHOOLBOY HOWLERS

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"Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock."—"Lay Thoughts of a Dean," By Dean Inge.

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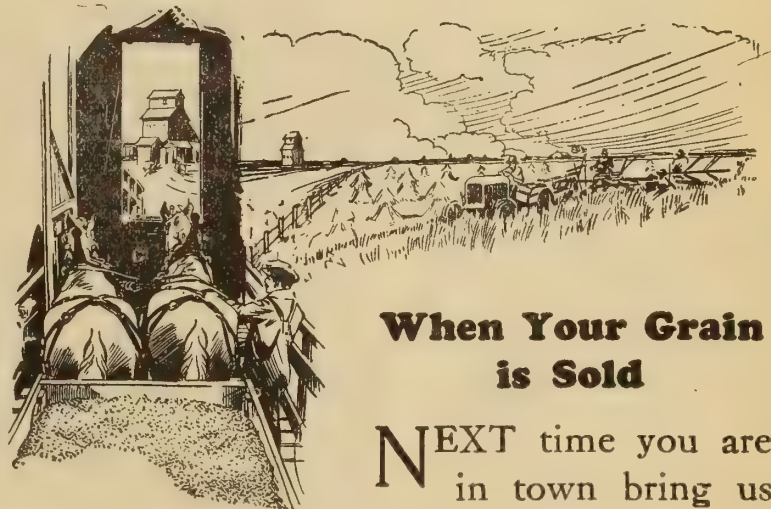
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Grain Grading and Grain Handling Chief Topics of Interest at U.F.A. Convention

Grain Commissioner Robinson and Chief Grain Inspector Fraser Are Asked and Answer Many Questions by Delegates—
Action Taken on Resolutions

As the subject of grain grading aroused more widespread interest at the Annual Convention than any other, we published in full in our issue of Feb. 1st the address of James Robinson, of the Canada Grain Commission, and this week we print a summary of a large number of questions, together with the answers given.

The resolutions adopted by the Convention are printed in the adjoining column. A resolution from Pembina Provincial Constituency Association, asking that tough grain be graded Tough A and Tough B, according to the degree of moisture contained in the grain, was tabled. A resolution from Lethbridge Federal Constituency Association asking that the Grain Commission be empowered to allow a certain amount of damaged grain to go into contract grades two and three, "under certain yearly climatic conditions," was lost. There was no mover for a resolution submitted by the Big Valley to Munson District Association, asking that "elevator companies be allowed to deduct on account of tough grain only the actual cost of drying."

A selection and summary of questions addressed to Mr. Robinson, and of his answers, follows:

Q.—In the event of an elevator agent refusing to buy straight wheat, owing to the fact that his bins are full, could he be compelled to buy any part of the grain for which he has room?

A.—No purchaser of grain or of any other commodity can be compelled to buy. But as pointed out in the Grain Act, if he has room, he is bound to accept the grain for storage.

Q.—Regarding storage of wheat, I understood that elevators are not compelled to buy, but are compelled to store grain.

A.—If they have room and a special bin.

Q.—If an elevator has special wheat in a special bin, would the agent be compelled to take wheat into that bin?

A.—When an agent allots a special bin for grain, he has no right to put any other grain with it. That would be deliberately mixing grain.

Q.—I had wheat that graded No. 1 and afterwards the same wheat graded No. 3. What took place that it lost 15c in value?

A.—I cannot answer that question. But No. 1 must be sound, and no matter how much or how little frost it has, it is not sound.

Q.—The lower grades Nos. 4, 5, 6 are subject to change from year to year. Why?

A.—It is only when grain suffers damage from climatic conditions. But grain may be injured from various causes, and according to the Grain Act, the Standards Board is to be the judge.

Q.—A certain amount of our wheat is graded No. 1 and No. 2 in the West, and figures show a much greater amount of these two grades sold in Liverpool. Why?

A.—I cannot give figures, but I know there is a difference.

RESOLUTIONS ON GRAIN GRADING AND HANDLING ADOPTED BY U.F.A. CONVENTION

GRADING OF WHEAT

Whereas the present system of grading wheat is, according to the Chief Grain Inspector, more or less a matter of opinion;

Therefore, be it resolved, that a Committee be appointed from the U.F.A. to work in co-operation with a committee from the Wheat Pool with the end in view of arriving at a grading system based more closely on facts; and that this committee be asked to report their findings at the next Annual U.F.A. Convention.

AMENDMENT OF GRAIN ACT

Whereas, the present system by which a farmer can appoint an agent to order a car for him, for the purpose of shipping grain, permits a wide abuse of the section of the Grain Act governing the distribution of cars during a time of car shortage, and works a disadvantage on special shippers and on the pool elevators, which encourage this system of grain marketing;

Therefore, be it resolved, that we request the Dominion Government to so amend the Grain Act so that every farmer desiring to ship grain must personally place his name on the order book, unless he is not residing at the point from which he intends to ship, in which event the person who has to do the delivering of the grain to the railway shall order the car.

Be it further resolved, that the Government enforce rigidly the terms of the act governing the allotting of cars, and the loading of them with the wheat of the person for whom they are ordered.

Note.—The resolution on grain grading was received from the East Calgary Federal Constituency Association and originated in the Calgary U.F.A. Local. A similar resolution was received from the Peace River Federal Constituency Association. The resolution on amendment of the Grain Act was submitted by the Big Valley to Munson U.F.A. District Association.

Q.—Is our wheat sold on looks or appearance only?

A.—Where?

Q.—At any point.

A.—The purchaser of your wheat never sees it as a rule. I am speaking of the ultimate purchaser in the Old Country. He does not see it until it is delivered to him, and never sees the actual shipment. Samples of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 are sent over and the purchaser buys accordingly. He has confidence enough in your inspection to buy from that.

Q.—Very recently a doctor in Winnipeg made tests of bran frosted wheat, and found it made as good bread as No. 1, and the wheat would have been No. 1 had it not been the bran was frosted.

A.—This doctor has a thoroughly up-to-date laboratory, not large, but big enough for the work to be done. He is making a test at the present time on the protein quality, and is only testing Nos. 1, 2, 3, as any tests on lower grades would be very misleading. Protein quality varies. A protein map is now being prepared which will show the protein contents, in the different districts, of

grain grown in Western Canada. There are districts that are high in protein quality as there are districts low in protein quality. The protein quality will vary from year to year in the same field, and this is a subject now before the Dominion Research Council. Some of the very nicest and plumpest looking kernels are often low in protein. My advice to the farmers of Alberta would be not to be too insistent to have wheat graded according to its protein content.

Q.—In the case where an elevator has just room for No. 4 tough, and a farmer brings in some No. 4 straight, and the agent says it must go in as tough?

A.—When an elevator is pretty well filled, and some one comes along with one or two grades that he wants to get rid of, and the agent can only put it in with other grain and it takes down the grade, I do not think the elevator man will gain as much as you.

Q.—Is mixing before leaving the Terminals the cause of wheat losing its good reputation abroad?

A.—Personally I do not believe in the

\$1.500 IN PRIZES

WHICH TWO HORSES WON THE KING'S PLATE?

Jeckey Jones had a dream. All the past winners of the King's Plate got together and entered in a race. It was very exciting—they all finished in a bunch. When the official result went up, it was found that the race had ended in a dead heat. Which two horses won?

LOOK CAREFULLY

You will see that the markings on the horses and jockeys are different. Some are black boys, others white. Some blouses have a white hoop, others none. Some horses wear blinkers, others none. Some have the front feet bandaged, others the hind feet. Two and only two are marked exactly alike in all respects. They are the two which won the race. Can you find them? If you can the \$1,000.00 reward may be yours. It is really difficult; but \$1,000.00 is worth trying for. Mail your answer to-day.

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2. Employees of Paragon are not eligible.
3. The correct or nearest correct answer will be given a score of 470 points.
4. The Final Judges will award a maximum of 30 points for neatness, handwriting and general appearance.
5. Five Hundred, (500) points or nearest thereto wins first prize.
6. Every contestant will be required to purchase or introduce into his district at least \$8.00 worth of Paragon Products. Entries not so qualified, will not be eligible for any prizes.
7. This is not a selling competition. The size of the prize does NOT depend on how much you buy.

8. The Final Judging committee is composed of three prominent Toronto Men who are in no way connected with Paragon.
9. This contest closes May the 24th, 1928, the day of the King's Plate.

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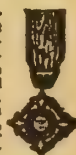
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mixing of grain. That is all I want to say.

Q.—In my locality the Agent said that his company instructed him not to buy anything higher than No. 4; and I heard this same agent say there was a load of No. 2 in, but he could not buy anything but No. 4, as they had no place to put it?

A.—What company?

Q.—Bawlf of Ranfurly.

A.—The average country line elevator has anywhere from 13 to 16 bins, and the larger elevators from 19 to 22 bins. In a year like this when there are so many grades it is difficult at times to get space in bins. But I would like to draw your attention to the Grain Act which defines clearly the position of the elevator man and the farmer. When agreement is reached between them, the farmer is to ask leave to take a fair sample of the load, put this in a box and send down to the Chief Inspector who will decide on grade, and the elevator will have to settle on the basis of the grade established by the Inspector.

Q.—The elevator had no place to put it?

A.—Well, you cannot make an elevator provide room.

Q.—The elevator shipped on a car grading No. 3. I shipped a car out of same bin and it graded No. 4. Between shipments, the agent said, he had received a new set of samples averaging a grade lower?

A.—The Chief Inspector will have to answer that.

Q.—I shipped a carload of grain through a certain elevator; it graded No. 3. I sent down sample to Chief Inspector and it graded No. 3. I had a friend send a sample of same and it graded No. 4. I sent a sample myself and it graded No. 2; and I think I am unable to get No. 2 from that car.

A.—The only thing is that a man sends samples from box in elevator which holds about two pounds; and I have seen in our office samples of wheat to be graded that would not fill a dessert spoon, and that it not amount enough to be graded.

Q.—How can the United States millers afford to pay duty on our wheat, and the high price in addition, unless the protein quality is such as to warrant giving the higher price?

A.—If any United States miller wants to grind our wheat, he will have to pay duty amounting to 42 cents per bushel. There is very little of our grain being ground in the United States under these conditions. But they do pay the duty, and when they export it they receive back 99 per cent of the duty. Our wheat this year is not as strong as it was last year or the year before. It is about 2 per cent lower. But the quality of the protein is better this year. *Protein percentages are misleading; there is more difference in the quality than in the quantity.*

Q.—If wheat graded 2 Northern was shipped as No. 2 tough, what can a man do?

A.—If the grain has been unloaded, sometimes there is nothing he can do. If he receives notice of 2 Nor. grade, and it has not been unloaded, he can ask for reinspection.

Q.—If wheat grades tough, and dried 12.5 is merely a basis of settlement, and

the farmer receives his settlement before grain is dried?

A.—Some samples may be dried down more than others, but the Board of Grain Commissioners, until they could demonstrate the actual moisture, allowed that as basis.

Q.—Can any one secure sets of grain samples?

A.—Yes, for a small charge.

Q.—Why not send samples which the Government uses to the Line elevators, and have them buy wheat on Government samples?

A.—What the gentleman asks for is simply impossible. We could not have an inspector at each grain elevator, and there is no other way to have inspection. According to the Canada Grain Act, if the Chief Inspector is satisfied that the lowest grade found in the car shall be the grade of the car, he may establish that. Mr. Fraser does not do that. He averages up; but if he wanted to he could grade on the lowest.

It was moved, seconded and carried. That a hearty vote of thanks be extended to Mr. Robinson.

The Question of Grade Standard

In discussion of a resolution asking that a certain amount of damaged grain be allowed to go into contract grades two and three, "under certain yearly climatic conditions," the mover, Mr. Wiley of Freeland Local, said that he came from the Peace River and that his wheat and that of a farmer from as far south as Foremost believed that their wheat was not being graded as high as in other years.

Advised Against Lowering Standard

Mr. Robinson was again brought into the discussion, while resolutions on grading were being considered, and made the statement: "Three years ago there was a very wide spread between No. 3 and No. 4. The Standards Board was called on 28th December. The feeling was that the U.S. standard had been too high, and that it should be lowered so that the spread become narrow. There was a very close friend of mine on that Board, and my advice to him was not to lower the standard. It will not add one cent to your crop."

Mr. McCready, (Ewing Local): What we farmers want is a fair grade which our wheat calls for, and some sure way of getting that grade. Those who have not carloads are at the mercy of the line elevator.

Questions Dealt with by Mr. Fraser.

Among questions dealt with by Mr. Fraser were the following:

Q.—I have had returns that were knocked down one or two grades on account of a light bran frost, and I have had millers tell me that it didn't affect the quality of the flour.

A.—It was the intention of the Grain Act, no doubt, that wheat graded One Northern should be sound wheat. If you have frosted wheat it isn't sound wheat. A miller might state that but if we were delivering to a miller one northern wheat containing frosted wheat he would very likely refuse it.

Q.—Should we not have a number 3 for wheat that would otherwise be a number one, except for a light bran frost?

A.—If you had a sample that I could examine, I could tell you better. Two Northern will carry a little light bran frost.

Q.—How do you arrive at the grade of wheat that is affected by what is called light bran frost?

A.—I would not care to grade even a little bran frost in our No. 1 Northern.

Q.—Are they able to determine the damage done the wheat?

A.—We cannot determine the damage by bran frost unless it is milled and baked. We do not do that. No. 1 should be sound wheat, and if it is frosted it is not sound wheat.

Q.—You stated that the graders were in possession of information as to the point from which the grain was shipped. Has any impression arisen over a period of years in the Inspection Department that grain from any one district was of possibly lower quality than grain from any other district?

A.—No. That is not so at all. There is only one point, that is Calgary, where the grading sheet that they use shows the shipping point. All at other points the information that the inspector has at the time of grading the sample is the car number and initial.

(Ed. Note.—Calgary sheets changed since to correspond with other inspection points.)

Q.—When a car is noted as plugged is that put on the inspection certificate?

A.—No.

Q.—Why not?

A.—We only place on each certificate that we graded the car No. 3 Northern, or whatever the grade may be. The Grain Act does not require us to note that. Certificates never show that the grain is plugged, the certificate only notes the grade of the wheat.

Q.—Where grain has been graded in two grades the elevator man has been known to make the statement that the Inspection Department was getting hard on it when they graded one car lower than the other.

A.—We are not responsible for any statement made by any elevator agent. Our inspectors have underneath the table a number of pails. If the wheat is No. 1, it goes into the No. 1 pail and so on. The early grains are the best averages of the year. During September and October the samples are better than later on, better than in November and December.

Q.—Why should that be?

A.—Simply because the earlier crops are got off and threshed first, and get a better grade in this way.

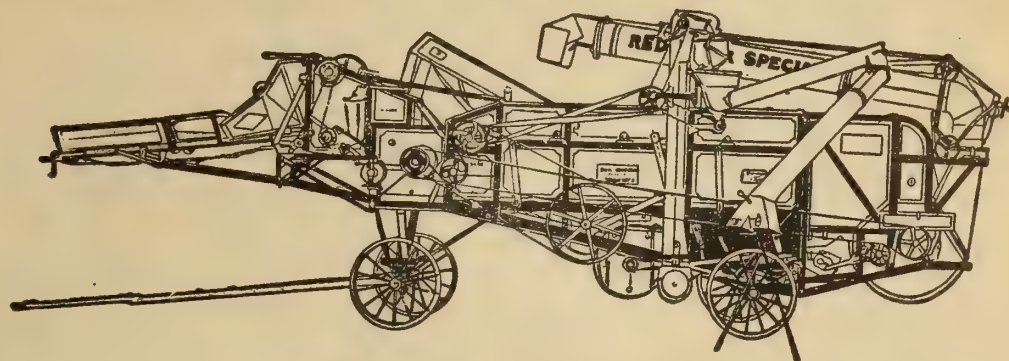
Q.—Is not No. 2 wheat the same in the early part of the year as in the latter part?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Do I understand you to say No. 2 wheat is better in the early part of the year than in the latter part?

A.—No, you have No. 2 Northern that sometimes just misses being No. 1, and there is some No. 2 that is almost No. 3. Each average sample is put in

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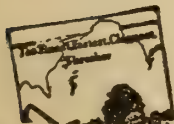
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these pails, sometimes it just misses No. 1 and sometimes just misses No. 3; it is a shade better quality than later on in the season. The last two years we have had a lot of rain and the grain has not been as good after it.

Q.—When grain is undergraded, who gets the benefit of it?

A.—Well, the purchaser, if it still remains undergraded. But under present conditions the Fools have representatives at the different points of inspection that check over every car.

Q.—I am referring to grain bought by the grain trade.

A.—The same thing applies to the grain trade.

Q.—Is it not Mr. Fraser's opinion that the grain standards at the present time are too high?

A.—The standards of grain are just classifications. Now in the ordinary years we will have 25, 30 or 40 per cent grading one Northern. Suppose you lower that. What is going to become of that 30 or 40 per cent. that is now one Northern? You are going to put it in with stuff that is lower. The men that produce wheat that is good enough to be graded one Northern are entitled to get the extra price over the men that produce stuff that is lower grade.

Q.—A grade 4 wheat will grade a number 1 wheat in Minneapolis. We are competing with those people. Why is it?

A.—Well, I tell you. The Federal Department of the U.S. have regulations governing grain standards. They require 75 per cent of hard wheat kernels, for one dark Northern, where our One Northern only requires 60 per cent.

Q.—It would be more difficult to get a One Dark Northern in Minneapolis than in Winnipeg?

A.—We would not grade anything One Dark Northern in Winnipeg because we have no such grade.

Q.—I would like to ask what grade in the U.S., in Minneapolis, is on a complete comparative level with No. One Northern in Winnipeg.

A.—Their One Dark Northern is the nearest that you can come. None of them correspond exactly.

Q.—I am of the opinion that if cars that are plugged are so stated on the certificate, it might be an advantage to the farmers. If the grain has been shipped and plugged by the Inspection Department, it could not be plugged by the farmer. It would protect the farmer against the plugging of cars by elevator agents, and would it not be in order to have it on the inspection certificate?

A.—I have known cases where cars found to have been loaded in that manner were loaded by accident. It was put there accidentally. I will give you an instance: a grain man came in red hot to us—we had graded a car No. 5 and he expected No. 1. He had good No. 3 Northern in his car and about 100 bushels or so of poorer grain. Immediately on seeing these samples he wired back home and found that the poor wheat had got there accidentally. (Laughter.)

When grain is delivered to the elevator have the elevator agent take a sample of it as you load it and put it in a tin box. The man delivering the wheat can then look it up and if the car does not grade what he thinks it should, he can send that

in to the Chief Grain Inspector and ask him to compare it, and we give him the grade of the wheat in that tin box. If the grain is plugged that is what you should do, and as a matter of fact we get samples every day where the identity of the wheat has not been preserved.

Q.—We as farmers realize that there is a great deal of plugging done that is not discovered. The idea is this, if a mistake happened to be made we don't want to punish a man; but if the certificate were marked, I am afraid that there wouldn't be so many mistakes.

Q.—In regard to moisture test. When wheat is loaded in this district during zero weather, it takes on practically the same temperature as the air, and it retains that temperature for a long time. Now you take that into the warmer air of the building, and it collects a certain amount of moisture. Now that certainly would affect the moisture test of the wheat. How do you guard against that?

A.—I don't think there is any added moisture by taking wheat into a warmer room. It doesn't add anything to good dry wheat. The only time that you might get additional moisture is when the wheat is in the first sweat. All wheat after threshing will sweat to some extent.

Q.—Two years ago I made some experiments and I found that moisture immediately collected on the wheat on bringing it into the house.

A.—We make a great many experiments. We have small tin cans, air tight. When we come to test the sample for moisture we test both that contained in the tin and in the cotton bag, with the result that they are practically the same, with the exception where we had damp grain, and especially damp flax.

Q.—Regarding permissible moisture content in grain, from the Grain Act, how much is allowed?

A.—The Grain Act does not make any provision for percentages of moisture to be allowed. All the act requires is that wheat shall be fit for warehousing.

Q.—Who determines that?

A.—The inspector.

Q.—How?

A.—At the present time by test as to moisture content.

Q.—As dozens of cars carrying 15 per cent. moisture have been shipped on the Wheat Pool account, without any visible depreciation in quality, would it not be well to raise the moisture standard above that which it is at present?

A.—A test was made on wheat containing 14.5 per cent moisture, and under certain conditions it became musty; therefore the line was drawn between straight grade and tough wheat at 14.4 moisture.

Q.—Is all wheat testing 14.5 required to be dried?

A.—Not always; in a great deal of it that goes to Great Britain or northern countries, but for countries with warmer climates, like Italy, it might have to be done.

Q.—According to Mr. Fraser's statement, in any grain over 14.5 per cent moisture, there would be danger in warehousing as it might go musty. At the present time in a great many cases, grain testing over 14.5 was not dried. I would like to know how they are able to warehouse that grain without drying?

A.—Wheat over 14.5 up to say 17 per cent would probably keep from now until

spring without damage—might keep until summer without damage. We have wheat in Fort William put in there a year last fall, it may be all right for two years. But your dried grain will keep indefinitely, not for six months or so. Straight grain certificate will keep one year or two years.

Q.—How are standard samples made up?

A.—The standards for 1, 2, and 3 Northern are defined by the Grain Act. Standard samples that are forwarded to the Old Country are made up from averages by inspectors at Winnipeg. These averages are reduced slightly. Standard will represent the wheat that will be sent out. And 4, 5, and 6 are set by the Standards Board, comprising 25 members and representatives from British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, besides milling and elevator interests. A great many members are farmers from the three Prairie Provinces. They usually meet in October in Winnipeg—if threshing is earlier the meeting is also earlier.

Q.—Inspectors collect samples from the three Prairie Provinces that would grade No. 4 or lower?

A.—Last year there were 300 two bushel bag samples from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and the Board selected from the 300 sacks No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6. Those standards are made by the Board and followed from year to year according to the quality of the wheat.

Q.—Who are the men responsible for sending samples 1, 2, and 3?

A.—The Inspection Department sends samples to Great Britain and the Exchanges.

Q.—Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are permanent grades at all times?

A.—They are according to definition.

Q.—How could we get grades changed?

A.—By getting authority from the Houses of Parliament.

Q.—Do you think it is a good record for the Inspection Department that out of 1700 cars that were reinspected, 1600 cars had the grades raised, and only eight were lowered?

Q.—I do not know those figures. Where did you get them?

Q.—Wheat Pool.

A.—This year's crop?

Q.—Last year's.

A.—My opinion is that last year a very great many changes were made and grades were raised on cars that should never have been raised. The No. 3 Northern that went out of Vancouver last year, I was told by one of the large importers in Great Britain, was so poor that he did not want any more. Besides you have a lot of cars too full to sample.

Q.—Would it not be advisable to ship subject to reinspection if grain is of doubtful grade?

A.—As far as reinspection is concerned we can only do what we are requested to do. We have some 600 cars per day for reinspection.

Q.—It is subject to reinspection always?

A.—I would imagine so. Everything is subject to reinspection.

Q.—One car testing 13 per cent. and two cars testing 14.7 per cent on being

mixed would average 14.4. Is this done on a specified scale?

A.—I do not handle the grain. Mixing is taking place at the elevators.

Q.—Do you guarantee the same grade going out of the car as has gone into that car?

A.—We issue certificates, and that certificate guarantees the grade shown is equal to that quality.

Q.—How much grain in 1926 was graded in No. 1 Northern and went out that way when sold?

A.—I have not got those figures. You might get them from the Grain Commissioner at Fort William.

Q.—Is it true that in some years the Grain Standards Board has raised the standard after the beginning of the season?

A.—Standard samples stand good until the next year. When the Board meets next year, if the grade is higher the standard will be higher.

Q.—While loading over a platform, and in the handling one or two lightly frosted loads of wheat gets in, is that car considered a plugged car in testing?

A.—When we find a car distinctly loaded with two grades of wheat we call that a plugged car. But there are lots of cars with very little difference in grades, and we do not call them plugged cars.

Q.—Would it be practical for your Department to grade grain to ascertain the protein test?

A.—That could be done under the Board of Grain Commissioners, that could not be done by the Inspectors themselves.

Q.—Is there any evidence that grain is lowered through terminal elevators during transit to the Continent? Is it true that having reached the terminal elevators it loses its grade or quality in passing through the elevators?

A.—The greater number of terminal elevators are operated privately, and they take in any kind of grain for mixing. Wheat out of a private elevator should be up to the average of public elevators. And the public may be reduced by the private elevators selling the best wheat.

Q.—Speaking of a specific case of the European buyer and where the terminal elevator slips in some poor stuff. How did it get in?

A.—Unfortunately in mixing sometimes No. 4 is put in with No. 3.

Q.—We have had grain shipped into Saskatoon and graded tough and damp, and have had no chance for reinspection after it has gone into Saskatoon. Can the Inspection Department do anything to increase the period of time in Saskatoon before unloading?

A.—You could at a large expense.

Q.—On the Appeal Board in Edmonton, I understand there is only one representative of the farmers, two Pool representatives, and 90 per cent. of the Board is made up of representatives of elevator companies. What chance has a farmer to get a grade raised if it goes before a Board of Line Elevators. If there is a difference and the Chairman, who is a Line elevator man, decides, what chance has the farmer?

A.—The Chairman is not a line man.

Q.—If all cars are graded tough and have real moisture test, when reinspec-

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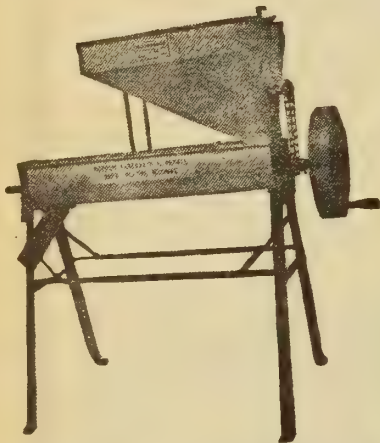
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tion is called for, how can they go straight?

A.—We have a number of such cars and cars loaded too full. We have had cars loaded where good samples could be taken in Winnipeg, and we have taken two samples in different places and have got different results. Cars being made up at elevator from different farmers and different farms, tested different in different places.

* * *

Q.—Is Garnet wheat not graded No. 1 Northern?

A.—In all new varieties I endeavor to get all the information in connection with it that I possibly can. On Garnet Wheat I asked for reports from the Experimental Farms, from our own laboratories at Winnipeg, and the laboratories from different mills; and the different reports gave the same result: That flour from Garnet wheat is more yellow than that from Marquis, and that it is not quite equal to the Marquis. The Canada Grain Act states that No. 1 Northern must be equal to Marquis wheat. If it is not equal we cannot grade it so. If Garnet is more yellow then we cannot grade it as equal.

* * *

Q.—Am I to understand from your reply that you are trying to grade wheat on its milling values? If so then why have laboratory tests?

A.—We would not accept any new variety of wheat on its appearance alone. We try different tests.

* * *

Q.—Is it not true that we are suffering from too many varieties, much of it having degenerated in quality?

A.—We are producing too many varieties, something in the neighborhood of from 40 to 45 varieties, and there is no reason why we should not get it down to half a dozen.

* * *

Q.—Fall wheat won the world's championship. Is there any chance of the grade of fall wheat being raised?

A.—If No. 1 Alberta Red is produced it is graded as such.

* * *

Q.—Would it not be a good thing to have inspectors call at some of the small towns once a year when a farmer could have a load tested.

A.—I find it quite a difficult matter to find suitable men to do inspection work without having to cover some 4,000 outside towns.

* * *

Q.—When a car has been inspected at Calgary or Winnipeg, are there any marks placed on that car to give information to other inspectors in case of reinspection?

A.—There are no marks put on cars at Calgary or Winnipeg in respect to grades. They are sealed with different colored seals.

* * *

Q.—Is it possible for an inspector to know if wheat is Pool wheat or non-Pool wheat, or that better grades are given to line elevators than to pool grain?

A.—Calgary is the only point where the origin of the grain is known to inspectors. Inspectors at all other points do not know where cars are from. We would sooner grade a car not knowing.

* * *

Q.—Why is the spread between No. 1 and No. 3 so much greater during the last two years?

A.—At the present time a very small percentage of No. 1 Northern has been produced, about 1½ per cent. is grade No. 1 and 10 per cent. grade 2.

Q.—Has wheat been graded lower since 1923?

A.—I do not think it is. My opinion is that 1, 2, and 3 Northern is not as good quality as three years ago.

Q.—Mr. Fraser has stated that samples on inspection tables are graded according to classification, and that samples are sent to foreign countries. We would like to know if these samples are the same?

A.—Standards sent over to the Old Country markets are not quite equal to that.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Fraser was adopted by the Convention.

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

(Continued from page 15)

were prepared to stretch to the utmost to obtain for the Province an effective settlement, but he was prepared to meet the Government with a genuine effort at real co-operation as Albertans and legislators rather than politicians.

Mr. Webster, in resuming the debate, said he was willing to go a long way with any agency or government that had for its object the furtherance of the health of the people. This he thought to be a primary function of government. The clinics, in his opinion, should be enlarged and extended, as many infirmities which appear in later life would be unknown if dealt with in youth. He ventured to criticise the Department of Health, even though it was always made apparent that this was treading on holy ground.

The Premier had described the Innisfail affair as petty. "If that is really his view," said the member, "I take issue with him there." He wanted the investigation extended a little further so as to reach some of the officials of the Department.

After dealing with the gasoline and motor vehicles revenues and expenditures referred to previously, Mr. Webster suggested that instead of 50 per cent as he alleged was transferred, there should be an arbitrary figure not exceeding ten per cent. (Mr. McPherson showed the premise to be incorrect.) Another suggestion was to borrow \$15,000,000 to be expended on roads at the rate of one and a half millions a year, for ten years, which he thought a modest request. Revenues from gas and licenses were bound to increase most rapidly, and could take care of a sinking fund to retire the borrowings.

Mr. Webster thought that so far as the Department of Education was concerned, it needed a complete renovation from the head down. With regard to the forecasted loss of revenue from the loss of subsidies, he was not alarmed, as he was quite confident that the close of the year would show a surplus in spite of it. He deprecated the spending of monies by special warrant except in emergencies.

The member was glad to see that the Government realised there were other interests in the Province than the one which they represented. He hoped the Premier would tell the industrial conference what was in their mind with regard to the development of electrical energy. He talked of commissions appointed to investigate the coal-versus-water-generation question, and hoped for an early decision, as too many detours had been made on the subject.

STATEMENTS RE POULTRY MARKETING

Slating the Minister of Agriculture for lending money to any association, pool,

marketing or other venture which was doing business in the Province, Mr. Webster quoted some figures showing losses from this source sustained through what he called lending money to the Egg and Poultry Pool. The Minister asked Mr. Webster then if he was sure whether he was quoting figures about the Egg and Poultry Pool or about the Government Marketing Service. Apparently the member did not know the history of these different branches, as he hesitated in his reply. Finally he was sure he meant the Egg and Poultry Pool. The loss as stated by the Calgary member as shown by inventory in 1925-26 was—Cash, decreased from \$73,000 to \$9,000; book accounts increased from \$48,000 to \$78,000, and while the total liability had decreased \$22,000 there had been a shrinking in assets of \$36,000, not considering losses as an asset. Either the men in charge were incompetent or it was an unsound business.

These things were all perhaps insignificant in comparison with the problem of the northern railways. While the member would act as an Albertan and a legislator apart from other political relationships for the good of the whole Province, he did not want to acquiesce blindly in any policy. He could not understand how two rival companies could make any offer, but he was willing to wait till all information was available and make a genuine effort to co-operate to effect a final settlement.

McPHERSON DEALS WITH ROAD QUESTIONS

O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, refused to take the credit for any assistance given west of Calgary to keep roads clear of snow. Some officials may have given their assistance, but not as representing the Department. The question of snow removal was not the simple thing it appeared to be. Ontario had failed to evolve a good system. So had Quebec, and these were densely settled, and had large cities, besides having a vertical snowfall without the drifting we had in Alberta. Nevertheless the Department was seized with the importance of the question, and the Provincial engineers were making a survey of snow hazards, windbreaks and so forth, and the present had been a very opportune time to investigate.

As had been suggested, private individuals had done good work, and they now knew more about the difficulty of the problem. All the machinery used had been the small snow plow, and that was totally inadequate. The Minister quoted the lists of machinery used in Ohio, far to the south, and it included much very expensive machinery. Here the road would drift in almost as soon as cleared, pyramiding higher and higher. Had the change of weather not come when it did, the clearing of the road would have been discontinued. At the present time they were not ready to undertake extensive policies in that line.

After denouncing Mr. Webster's assertion that 50 per cent of the income from gasoline and licenses had been diverted, as a miscalculation which had been maintained insistently for the past number of years, the Minister stoutly asserted that the Government's figures were correct and the statement to the contrary unjustified and harmful.

The Minister detailed the classification of roads and the policies affecting them. There were three divisions—main highways, district highways, and local roads. The Government bore 100 per cent of construction and maintenance of main highways; 50 per cent of district high-

ways in conjunction with municipalities, while the municipalities were responsible for 100 per cent of the local roads. The monies were spent on a scientific basis. The policy with regard to main highways was to build a grade which would meet the immediate needs of the traffic and at the same time make a foundation for the laying of a higher type of road on top later on.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF ROADS

Minnesota spent \$9,857 per mile of highway, and Alberta \$2500 per mile. The idea in Alberta was to make a big mileage of a fair grade to serve a large number of people rather than a small mileage of superior construction, which would only serve a few. The real reason why this Province did not yet have the fine roads found in older settled countries was the same as that which caused people to drive Fords instead of Packards.

The Province was trying to carry out a balanced program between main highways and market roads. In conjunction with the municipalities, they were doing the best they knew, based on population, mileage and cost of construction. Some municipalities were not taking advantage of their share of the \$600,000 appropriation, while others were denied because of work not conforming to specification. Local roads were the responsibility of each municipality.

With regard to maintenance, there would never come a time when the needs would not be two jumps ahead of the work. The same reasons given regarding construction applied to maintenance.

Mr. McPherson concluded by saying that the Government had not abandoned the survey into the Peace River as was reported, nor had they any intention of so doing. The permanent locations would be adhered to, but some temporary diversions had been under water, and there had arisen a fear that the main project would be thrown over. If this year proved to be at all favorable from a weather standpoint, progress would be made, and before long there would be a good serviceable road into the Peace River.

NEVER ADVOCATED COAL SUBSIDY

The Premier pointed out, on the orders of the day, in order to avoid misunderstanding with regard to his remarks on the coal question yesterday, that he had never advocated a coal subsidy when east. His efforts had been concentrated on the securing of a rate on seasonable shipments based on a rate sufficiently low to make it practicable.

Radical Changes Are Forecast by P. Baker in School System

Boudreau Enters Debate — Hoadley Answers Criticism—Pattinson, Parkyn Express Views

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 10.—Strenuous efforts to wind up the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne led to an evening sitting of the Assembly today. Denizens of the press gallery scented trouble when George MacLachlan (U.F.A.), Pembina, made the remark that he could not engage in combat with the member from St. Albert

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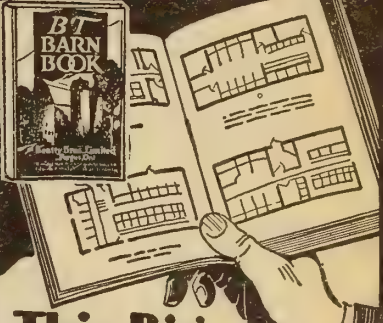
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with as much chance of receiving justice and fair treatment as he could with a certain little animal with black stripes if he were only armed with a bottle of Florida water. This roused the ire of Captain Shaw. "Unhand thee, sir," he seemed to say as he appealed to the Speaker to make the villain relent. Before the Speaker could intervene the member for Pembina had already qualified his statement in such a way as to be a virtual apology.

BOUDREAU MAKES ONE HOUR SPEECH

Lucien Boudreau, (Lib.), St. Albert, entertained the Assembly with an hour's humorous recital of many things, interspersed with jabs and thrusts of a rather invidious nature against the Government, the Dominion, the big interests, the Bank of Montreal, the C.I.R. and the U.F.A. George MacLachlan was making a comeback when the incident occurred. Chris Pattinson, Edson, made the finest speech in defence of Labor yet listened to, untainted with sarcasm, condemnatory of the status quo without being obnoxious; the Hon. Perren Baker, Minister of Education, gave a reasonable answer to all his critics; and the member from Calgary, Mr. Farkyn, was seeking the privilege of adjourning the debate, when at twenty minutes to six the Speaker rose and said with due solemnity—"As it is now six o'clock I do now leave the Chair," and attended by his noble body guard, stumped out of the Chamber.

PARKYN SPEAKS AT EVENING SESSION

At the evening session the admirable Parkyn of the Labor group, launched an attack on militarism and the capitalistic system to thirty eight empty benches. Twenty-one constitutes a quorum, and there were twenty-two stalwart legislators present, so the situation was saved for Democracy. Then came the Hon. George Hoadley, and the benches filled up as the old war horse set out to get the scalps of the Liberal party. The Government had been criticised from one portion of the Assembly only, and he was very very doubtful if it was not a pre-concerted plan with sinister motives. It was a studied effort, he feared, to create doubt in the minds of the people as to the cleanliness of the Department and its administration. He had violent clashes with the Liberal chief, several times, but his sword was still undented when the Assembly arose at ten o'clock. The debate is still unfinished.

Mr. Boudreau, in his speech, made the sweeping claim that Providence always prospered the country through the medium of the Liberal Party, and counselled Premier Brownlee to follow ex-Premier Drury and, abandoning the group idea, rehabilitate his followers in the old parties. He claimed that big business had control of the Government and that all high department officials had at one time been in the service of the Bank of Montreal.

As a member of the committee which investigated the question of workmen's compensation, the member approved of the principle of compulsory inclusion of all industries, including that of farming. He blamed the Attorney-General for setting up what he termed a bureau of correction, to interfere with the business of the regular profession of law, thus tempting honest lawyers to take trust monies. His remarks arose out of a personal incident.

He criticised the Education Department by saying they spent too much on the University and too little on the small

school—an old gag of a few years ago. He read an appeal printed in *The U.F.A.* for assistance to the unsuccessful candidate in the St. Albert election, saying that as he noticed so much stress being placed on co-operation he would co-operate to the tune of one hundred dollars. He was awfully mad at Webster, his colleague, for taking away his title when he had referred to "the Napoleon of the Conservative Party" the other day. This was lese majeste. He spoke in favor of Old Age Pensions, the sale of the E.D. & B.C. to the C.N.R. only, and that at a good price.

MACLACHLAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO LABOR

Geo. MacLachlan (U.F.A.), Pembina, congratulated the Conservative leader for giving the Assembly to know where his party stood on the important questions of the day. He agreed that the principle of unemployment insurance would have to be adopted, but doubted that in a Province which was at present 75 per cent agricultural the time was now opportune. He disagreed on the principle of protection. The fact that we still had economic distress after having been under this policy for many years justified the trying out of some other system. He paid tribute to the Labor group for consistently looking after the interests of those who had chosen them, saying he had great admiration for them. As the Liberals did not have any issues, he could take no issue with them.

PATTINSON SETS FORTH VIEWS

Chris Pattinson (Labor), Edson, was glad to note that the sons of the soil had this year participated in the prosperity so much talked about. The miners had also shared—having had an average increase of \$1.24 more than the previous year. This meant that the miner received an average of \$26.34 a week last year as against \$25.11 the year before. All hail the Diamond Jubilee!

Touching lightly on Old Age Pensions at this time, the member passed on to review the recommendations on Workmen's Compensation. He was not in favor of the three days' waiting period, as this would deprive many workers of a considerable sum. Nor did he want the running trades included except on their own decision.

He trotted out an old friend, the Jasper Highway, wanting action. Edson district also was short on roads. An engineer should be sent to that region. The national coal policy came in for analysis and Mr. Pattinson elaborated the remarks of the Conservative leader with regard to the setting of an out-of-pocket rate. The main idea in his philosophy was not so much the mere opening of a market as the providing of employment to Alberta miners. The quality of coal sent east on this rate would have to be specially good, as to compete with good coal from other places with inferior coal from Alberta was an impossibility. In his opinion an out-of-pocket rate would not exceed \$5.45.

FAVORS NATIONALIZATION AND COAL SELLING POOL

The certification of miners was instituted to save life, as juries had attributed accidents to careless and inexperienced miners. This did not increase the cost of production as alleged. Neither did the tax on coal. So far as the operators were concerned the only remedy they could see for the high cost of production was the reduction of wages. Two remedies as he saw them were the nationali-

zation of the mines and the formation of the pooling system of selling, the latter the immediate one. If this Province could send one million tons to Ontario in summer it would mean \$400 odd dollars to each miner's wages.

Twenty firms had failed to pay some of their workers wages and he wanted some kind of protection for workers in cases like that. A minimum wage for lumbermen and the humanization of industry were also enlarged upon.

BAKER REPLIES TO GIBBS' SUGGESTIONS

Perren Baker, Minister of Education, answered C. L. Gibbs' many suggestions in a clear and convincing way. In re-drafting the Education Act suggestions from any responsible body would be considered. He did not think an advisory board was the best way to solve the question of framing curricula. The board of reference was not a farce as was stated the other day, as while it had no power to bind, it proved a clearing house for the airing of grievances and the presenting of an unbiased opinion.

To prove that a distinct advance had been made this year the Minister quoted comparisons since the year 1921-2 of the different years in the percentages of secondary grade pupils, the number of rural schools, the number of school districts with grade VIII candidates, the total number of grade eight candidates, grade eight enrolment and the percentage of school districts operating 160 days and over. These showed improvement in spite of, if not because of the efforts of the Department, he smilingly stated, and because of a common movement which was world wide.

NEED RADICAL CHANGE FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

The reason why a new act had not been brought in this year, was because there was need of such radical change that it could not be worked out in a few months' time. To be effective there would have to be a complete change in the system of administration of rural schools and this could not be done without a large degree of popular support. He outlined the chief difficulties under the present system to be, first, to get sufficient schools, and second to get the proper quality of teacher. The first was unattainable because it threw the complete burden on the local district, and there was no way to effect such equalization so that one rate-payer would not pay three mills and another forty. With regard to the quality, there was no incentive for one to make teaching his life work unless there was some opportunity for advancement. There was no future in rural teaching. A teacher, after teaching fifteen years should be at the maximum of his power, but when it came to securing a school he would have to compete with a girl just out of school and most rural school boards engaged on a basis of salary only.

There was also a lack of supervision, and to overcome this it would be necessary to have the supervision carried out by the same authority which engaged the teacher. Then there had to be protection of the teacher from the school board in some instances and the protection of the board from teachers in others. These things could not be done because the schools were in the grip of an antiquated system. In the States the adoption of the county system worked well, and Ontario and the Maritimes were advocating the larger unit.

Mr. Baker detailed the history of the local school, formerly accepted volun-

tarily by one district and rejected by another. This was at the beginning of the adoption of tax supported schools. Today we had advanced so far that it had become compulsory to open a school as soon as the number of children warranted and the Department had power to take action on their own volition where necessary.

The unit had to be large enough to equalize taxation, the salary scale had to be attractive, and proper supervision absolutely necessary. These could not be worked out in a day, but the Department was concentrating on the problem.

PARKYN WANTS PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES

R. H. Parkyn, (Labor), Calgary, on resuming the debate, did not agree that prosperity was very pronounced, and quoted amounts spent in Calgary for relief to prove that the much heralded wave had at least not swamped the worker. To counteract the newspapers' assertions that priorities kept capital out he read from the speech of a Montreal financier to the effect that Alberta was a good field for investment in the way of farm and city mortgages.

Mr. Parkyn would like to pry into the Government's attitude toward the handling of the natural resources provided these are returned soon. "If it is the intention to turn these over to private interests to exploit, and if I am still a member of this House there is going to be a scrap." He then recited a long story of the alienation from the common people in Britain of the common lands and the growth of the manufacturing age, in which he said that man had only become a cog in the wheel of the machine. The Labor member interspersed his speech with numerous quotations, poems and panegyrics, sagas of many lands.

HOADLEY ANSWERS VARIOUS CRITICS

George Hoadley, Minister of Health, set out to put the Assembly right on the charges levelled during the week against the Health Department. These charges were three in number. The first that of food at Ponoka mental hospital. The Minister stated that the Liberal Leader had heard (emphasis on the heard) that there were complaints. The Minister had also heard it. So immediately on hearing it he requested the visiting committee—a body set up by himself some time ago, composed of private citizens who were quite independent, and who made periodic visits to different institutions—to investigate, and they had reported to him that there was complaint to the effect that the food was not varied enough, and that the apple sauce provided contained the skins of the apples. On their report he decided to send a dietitian to Ponoka to investigate and give assistance so that the food could be varied. Both the dietitian and the doctor had come to the unanimous conclusion that it was more conducive to health to eat apple sauce with the skins.

At Innisfail there had arisen a situation, which he had been told just that evening had been occasioned by the fact that the doctor there had been a Conservative candidate, and that he, Mr. Hoadley, as an old Conservative, was trying to shield him. The Minister said the report of the investigator explained itself. The result was that Judge Walsh had been commissioned to investigate, not to protect that Department, but to protect the architect. The only phase of investigation was whether or not the building was

The Western Empire Life Assurance Company

EXTRACTS FROM 1927 REPORT

Assets.....	\$1,256,196.41
Premium and Interest Income.....	319,488.09
Policy Reserves.....	950,375.00
Insurance Issued.....	1,787,511.00
Insurance in Force.....	9,276,179.00
Paid to Policyholders and Beneficiaries since commencing business.....	313,377.80

Deferred Dividend Result

Paid January 1, 1928

15 PAYMENT LIFE

Amount \$2,000.	Premium \$90.30	Policy No. 369,
Total Premiums Paid.....	\$1,354.50	Issued Jan. 1st,
Total Cash Value.....	1,598.00	1913
Reserve.....	1,106.00	Paid-up Policy Option,
Surplus over Reserve.....	\$ 492.00	\$2,884.00

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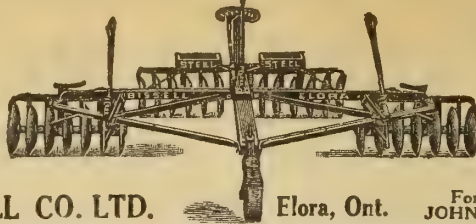
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properly built and suitable for the purpose it was intended for.

The charge that there had been theft at Oliver was unquestionably true, and the Minister recited the story. The accused had been engaged while the superintendent had been on holiday, and the recommendations had come through the labor bureau acting in good faith.

The whole thing boiled down to this—criticism of the Health Department had been based on the same human equation met with in any business. The curious thing about it was that these attacks came from one portion of the Assembly only, and came with such persistence that it looked to him as if a studied effort were being made to undermine the Health Department. The best interests of public health could not be attained by such methods, and he thought perhaps that none of the gentlemen who raised these criticisms had the interests of public health at heart.

This brought J. T. Shaw to his feet. "I would like to inform the Hon. Minister that I have."

Mr. Hoadley—"Well, I have to accept the member's statement because—well, because the rules compel me." Laughter. The Minister thought that as these insistent charges had come from one quarter only, it was a studied policy.

Mr. Shaw countered by saying that the reason why they were made insistently was on account of the fact that the Premier had stated these charges to be so slight as not to disturb the equanimity of a village board of trustees.

WEBSTER'S DATES ARE SLIGHTLY OUT

The debate went on. The Honorable George then out-Georged the representative from the Southern Cowtown when he drew the attention of the Assembly to Mr. Webster's statements about the Government having sustained heavy losses through the operation of the Egg and Poultry Pool. The Calgary financial critic had stated that there had been a loss of some \$22,000.00. The Assembly would remember, went on the Minister, that he had risen at the time and asked if he was referring to the Egg and Poultry Pool or to the Government marketing service. Mr. Webster had replied—"The Egg and Poultry Pool." This loss occurred in 1924, said the Minister. "Note that—1924—and the Egg and Poultry Pool came into existence on the 29th day of November, 1925." (Loud laughter.) "And as to the Pool losing money," he went on, "it had none to lose."

Then Mr. Hoadley told the world about the Government marketing activities, and how three million dozen eggs had gone on to the world's markets at three cents a dozen more than would have been obtainable at home. This had meant a matter of \$90,000 to the producer, much more than the losses. He feared though that the real meaning of the attack was the Calgary member's antipathy to the pooling method.

Mr. Webster rose to ask the Minister if he would furnish an interim statement of the marketing services this year in the form previously used.

Mr. Hoadley—"I will be delighted, especially so because the marketing branch shows a substantial surplus this year." (Applause from the support trenches.)

Mr. Hoadley recited the successes of Alberta grains, grasses and livestock at the big exhibitions. There had been an all Alberta exhibit at eight big expositions in the central States, resulting in many enquiries after land. The humble bumble bee, at which many members had

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tittered when first introduced to Alberta, had produced more honey than the Province's own requirements. Not only so, but the honey had obtained a higher price, and had won first and third prizes in competition with Canadian honey at large. Tobacco also had provided an ocular demonstration that this was not the frozen waste so often depicted in the land to the South. One great tobacco magnate had said that the new tobacco from Alberta had resembled the variety of Virginian more than any he had seen. Mr. Hoadley adjourned the debate.

Annual Convention Peace River Federal U.F.A. Association

Members Review Activities of Past Year—Value of U.F.A. to Farmers

The convention of Peace River Federal Constituency Association, held in Edmonton on January 16th, was presided over by Carl Antonson, in the absence of the president, H. Critchlow. Addresses were given by Geo. MacLachlan, M.L.A., D. M. Kennedy, M.P., and Hon. O. L. McPherson.

Mr. MacLachlan dealt with the Provincial railways, and spoke of the good service given by the Provincial Government in the operation of the E.D. and B.C.

Mr. Kennedy reviewed some of the legislation passed by the 1927 session of Parliament, with special reference to the Long Term Farm Loans Act and the Old Age Pensions Act. The last part of his speech, writes Jos. Messmer, secretary, in his report of the convention, "was devoted to a splendid exposition of the value of the U.F.A. to the farmers of this Province and the contributions the organization has made to the public welfare not only of Alberta but to the Dominion. At the conclusion of his address a resolution was passed expressing appreciation for the work done by Mr. Kennedy in connection with a Coast outlet."

Mr. McPherson, the next speaker, informed the delegates that given reasonable weather conditions the highway from Edmonton to Peace River would be made passable next summer. He spoke of several phases of the work of his department, and answered a number of questions regarding the policy of the Government in unorganized districts. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. McPherson at the conclusion of his address.

Five resolutions were dealt with, two of which were forwarded to the Provincial Annual Convention in Calgary. The following officers were elected: President, Carl Antonson, Pibroch; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. R. J. Robb, Rossington, I. V. Macklin, Grande Prairie; Directors: F. L. Bredin, Clairmont, Mr. McLean, Waterhole, H. Critchlow, Barrhead, J. H. Law, Donnelly; A. E. Sherrat, Mayerthorpe, J. H. Lee, Entwistle; F. L. Irwin, Carrot Creek; Secretary, Jos. Messmer.

DIDN'T SEEM FAIR

Magistrate—Have you anything to say before I pass sentence?

Prisoner—Well, the only thing I'm kicking about is being identified by a man who kept his head under the bed-clothes the whole time.—*Passing Snow.*

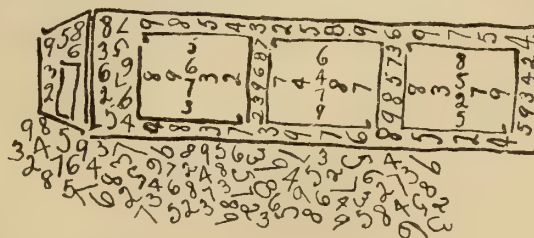
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Please enter my subscription to the Poultry Message for which find enclosed the sum of \$.....

If this is the winning answer send prize to

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

My answer to the puzzle is..... Closing Date April 15th, 1928.

Mr. W. H. Boyle, President of the Saskatchewan Poultry Association and Mr. F. H. Auld, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, have kindly consented to act as judges of the contest.

GET YOUR ANSWER IN EARLY. DO IT NOW.

U.F.A. CONVENTION

(Continued from page 6)

with a conception of the meaning of the U.F.A. which they could have obtained in no other way than by attendance at the Convention. They would be better members of the Association, and their representation at the Convention would tend to draw the Juniors into closer contact with the Seniors' organization.

The report of the Senior Committee on Junior Work, presented by the Vice-president, Mr. Scholefield, was adopted by the Convention.

REPORT OF CANADIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Scholefield then read the report of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, in which the activities of the Council during the past year were reviewed at length. The council had taken an active part in the fight for the adjustment and reduction of freight rates on grain, thereby directly benefiting the farmers in a financial way. Other activities were concerned with the extension and improvement of the grading of farm products, while others again related to such activities as immigration.

One of the most important activities of the Council during the past year, it was stated, had been the presentation of the farmers' viewpoint and the prosecution of the interests of agriculture in the proceedings of the Advisory Board on Tariff and Taxation. "Under the able and impartial chairmanship of William H. Moore, the present chairman," read the report, "great progress has been made in the hearing and investigation of the numerous applications for changes in the customs and excise duties. At practically all the sittings of the Board the C.C.A. has been represented by Mr. A. E. Darby, the Director of the Economic Research Department, who has devoted his time mainly to the preparation of arguments in support of applications to the Board for reduction of import duties, and in opposition to those asking for increased protection.

"By cross examination of those appearing before the Board and the elucidation of the facts presented, Mr. Darby has effectively combatted protectionist demands. At the same time he has endeavored to maintain a constructive attitude and to impress on the industrial interests concerned in the applications the fact that the organized farmers are not actuated in their opposition to the protective system by mere antagonism to manufacturing activities, but that their opposition arises partly from the injury which it inflicts upon them, and partly from the conviction, supported by their experience, that the welfare of the Dominion and the rapid and successful development of its resources can best be served by the reduction of the tariff and the elimination of its protective features."

The report also dealt very fully with the work of the Women's Section and other important activities.

After a brief discussion the report was adopted.

EXECUTIVE TO REPORT ON RELATIONS WITH C.C.A.

A very lengthy discussion took place on a resolution from the Big Valley to Munson District Association, asking the U.F.A. Executive to "circularize the various Provincial Farmers' organizations in Canada with a view to having a committee formed of representatives appointed from the above organization so that they can represent us as a com-

In the report of proceedings at the Annual Convention which appeared in *The U.F.A.* of February 1st it was stated that the Federal and Provincial members and Presidents of Constituency Associations were given the rights of the floor "with" voting privileges. This should have read "without" voting privileges.

mittee and help to co-ordinate our efforts." Finally, on motion of Mr. Lunn, the following substitute resolution was adopted by the Convention:

That our Executive Committee be instructed to report on our future relationships with the Canadian Council of Agriculture and to bring same before the next Annual Convention.

At the outset Gus Roose of Camrose called attention to the work done by the C.C.A. during the past year, which, he said, showed that they had been able to render effective service to the farmers, and he felt that before taking any action which might affect seriously the relationship between the U.F.A. and the C.C.A. the matter should be given very careful consideration.

PRESIDENT WOOD EXPRESSES VIEWS

By request from the floor of the Convention, President Wood spoke at some length on the C.C.A., and alternative proposals for a national body representing the farmers. "I don't think that anyone is entirely satisfied with all the past results of the activities of the Council," said he. "The question is, are we going to meet with similar difficulties in another organization? If the difficulties are due to the faults of individuals, can we avoid them by a change of organization?"

The name of the "United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section," which had been brought into the discussion, implied a Dominion wide organization under some form of central control. "My own opinion," declared the President, "is that that is not practical. I think the Provincial unit is the largest unit that it is possible to control as one organization." There should, however, he said, "be some form of co-ordinating body."

Some people thought that the failure of the C.C.A. to give all the results hoped for was due to certain organizations being connected with it. He would prefer to think that the difficulties were due to personnel. They were not all "company" men who had stood in the way of the formation of the Wheat Pool. President Wood then made the suggestion, subsequently embodied in the resolution adopted by the Convention, that the Executive take the matter up and report, one year hence, on the desirability or otherwise of continuing the affiliation.

C. H. Axelson said the original resolution provided a means of inviting similar bodies to our own to form a temporary committee "to arrive at a decision either to continue as we are or to have something better to take the Council's place." The U.F. of C. Saskatchewan Section, when invited to consider plans to join the C.C.A., refused because they objected to commercial organizations being connected with it. "I believe that if the C. C. A. gives service," added the speaker, "the farmers will be only too glad to finance it. If we want that body of 30,000

Saskatchewan farmers related with us in a co-ordinating body, we can't have the commercial companies." Mr. Axelson moved that the original resolution be amended to provide that any conference to be held should be between the farmers' "educational" organizations. By these he meant such bodies as the U.F.A., U.F. of C., Saskatchewan Section, U.F.M., U.F.O., etc.

After C. East had made an appeal to leave the matter over for a report from the Executive, which, he remarked, would only mean waiting a year before arriving at a definite conclusion, the substitute motion was adopted.

James Worsley, of Calgary, representing the Alberta Federation of Labor, and Captain Dancy, representing the Canadian Legion, extended fraternal greetings to the Association on Thursday evening, and A. H. Tovell, whose report on the Hail Insurance Board will be printed in full in a later issue, also addressed the Convention.

CONVEYS FRATERNAL GREETINGS FROM LABOR

Mr. Worsley, who declared that upon broad issues of social policy the farmers and labor had much in common, expressed himself in favor of reserving to the people the rights in hydro-electric energy in this Province, stating that in the United States, where power was mainly in the hands of corporations, its cost averaged \$7.64 per kilowatt hour, whereas in Ontario, under public ownership, the householder paid \$6.99. Labor favored the adoption of enabling legislation by Alberta to bring the Old Age Pension Act into effect, even though it was not all that could be desired. Certain improvements in respect to workmen's compensation were being sought by Labor. They wanted adequate wages for female workers, state health insurance and urged that something be done towards the solution of the problem of unemployment.

"The Alberta Federation of Labor," Mr. Worsley concluded, "is heart and soul with you in your fight for better conditions on the farm. We are not looking for points of difference, but seeking to find out upon what matters we can co-operate with you."

The Labor delegate was cordially received. "Co-operation is very necessary between the Farmers and Labor for the realization of many purposes which we have in common," commented the chairman, Mr. Gardiner, at the close of his address.

GREETINGS FROM CANADIAN LEGION

Speaking for the Canadian Legion, Captain Dancy declared that if the same strong morale which made possible success in war were restored to Canada today, its problems would be largely solved. One of the great tasks, he said, was to keep alive the spirit of patriotism. The work of the Legion was unselfish. Ninety per cent of the concessions which it had won for returned men were given to ex-soldiers who were not members of the organization.

It had been said that the late war was a "war to end war," but it was evident today that the same forces were at work making for international enmities as prior to 1914, and it would require the united efforts of all organizations that believed in peace and goodwill to avert another catastrophe, said the speaker amidst applause.

(To be concluded in next issue)

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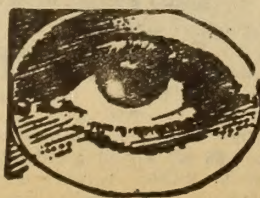
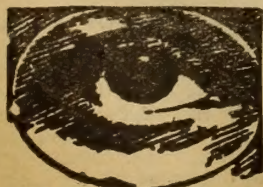
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AN ESTIMATE OF THE CALGARY U.F.A. CONVENTION

(Continued from page 7)

Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture; Hon. Perren Baker, Minister of Education; Hon. O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works; Hon. R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer; and Hon. Mrs. Irene Parby, Minister Without Portfolio. In addition to the two assistant chairmen there were also present five other members of the U.F.A. group at Ottawa: Messrs. Spencer, Speakman, Irvine, Coote and Kennedy. The resolutions on the order paper were divided broadly into matters affecting the organization directly, those involving Provincial legislation, and those affecting Federal politics. As they came up for discussion, the Directors of the organization, the Cabinet Minister concerned or one of the Federal members would be interrogated or asked to give an opinion on the matter. A great deal of fruitless discussion and waste of time was thereby avoided.

It is a great system. From some Local U.F.A. perhaps four or five hundred miles away from the seat of the Convention a problem is brought forward or an idea given birth. It is presented to the house, discussed on the floor. Weaknesses in the statement of the case are soon discovered or the value of the idea realized. The whole process tends to do several things: to give vent to grievances which might otherwise fester harmfully in some quarter of the body politic; to clarify ideas and increase knowledge; to set aside ill-conceived schemes; to check with reason and common sense the enthusiasm of the impractical doctrinaire; to disseminate progressive political and economic thought; to give voice to the desires and needs of men and women who are carrying the heavy burdens of life; to put spurs into the flagging forces of reform; and to promote throughout a sense of unity and a desire for the common good. While the leaders of the movement have been unable, even those in control of Provincial affairs at Edmonton, to implement all the resolutions of the U.F.A. Conventions of past years there appears to be little if any restlessness on that account. The Convention appears to have great faith in the elected representatives of the movement and their Government. One is reminded of the words of Tennyson: "The common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe."

Some Personalities

Space limits forbid any lengthy discussion of particular subjects dealt with by the Convention; or of the personalities which give direction and colour to its proceedings. The intense loyalty of the body to its President, notwithstanding the tacit admission that he cannot give it the time and thought that he used to do before he became head of its great economic child the Alberta Wheat Pool, cannot go without notice. There is affection and respect amounting almost to reverence in the attitude of the delegates to their leader. Carl Axelsson still leads the left wing of the movement; and is accorded a respectful and often sympathetic hearing; though the Convention will not go with him anywhere near all the way. Tempered somewhat by the passing years, he still fiercely fights for his conception of the co-operative commonwealth; but when it comes to his moving other names for President, even that one so much respected and admired as Vice-president H. E. G. H. Scholefield, the redoubtable Carl can get no following.

Discussion of Wheat Grading

One of the big sessions of the Convention was that devoted to the subject of wheat grading. From all over the Province men have come with particular cases of injustice and wrong. Men, who grew last season one of the finest crops of wheat the world ever saw, are sore at heart that the vagaries of the weather in the harvest season should have made possible dockage for color, and bran frost, excessive moisture content, etc., amounting to nearly, if not all, of the profits of their season's operations. At that session or, more properly speaking, those sessions, for the discussion went into the evening hours, there were present and on the platform J. D. Fraser, chief grain inspector of the Dominion government, and James Robinson of the Dominion Grain Commission. After delivering addresses on phases of this vexed subject, which seemed more or less exhaustive, they were kept on their feet for lengthy periods answering questions and offering solutions to difficulties. There was a sense of futility about it all; but it had at least this value, that the delegates on the one hand gave expression to a protest, almost universal among the wheat farmers of the Province, against advantage being taken, by the flour milling and other interests, of variations in the appearance and condition of wheat, which are felt to have no depreciating effect upon its milling value, to rob them of hard earned money; and, on the other hand, it gave opportunity for men who are working under the existing laws to defend themselves and their subordinates and colleagues against charges of discrimination against the farmer. Several specific reforms recommended were in turn seen to be unworkable, and thrown out; and recourse finally taken to the only feasible idea, when a resolution was passed calling for the formation of a joint committee of the U.F.A. and the Alberta Wheat Pool, to work with a view to inaugurating a more just and equitable system.

Sanity in International Affairs

On many subjects in the realm of education and international affairs the Convention showed its sanity. Several resolutions called for the exercise of our lately recognized Canadian autonomy in the matter of relations with Russia. Some heat was engendered in this debate. Extraneous matter was brought in by ardent patriots, on the one hand, who seemed to detect a disposition to sever imperial connections; and by men of a more mundane and practical bent, at the other extreme, who could apparently see nothing greater involved than the sale of some few thousand Alberta range horses. The subject was tabled overnight after some quiet advice by Hon. George Hoadley, but taken up again and debated with less heat next day. At the later session it was shorn of its "horse clause" and passed; the Convention being quite clearly suspicious of the political sagacity of English Conservative politicians.

Social Phases of Week

The social phases of the farmers' big week are by no means negligible. Beginning with a dance in the ball-room of the Palliser Hotel, on Monday night, at which the crowd was so great that hundreds thronged the halls and rotunda, there was an air of good-fellowship and geniality which remained in evidence throughout the week. On Wednesday evening the same hotel was the scene of a remarkable gathering, when the U.F.W.A. and their guests, numbering over five

hundred persons in all, assembled at the tables in the great dining hall. The setting, dress and conduct of the assembly were a demonstration of the culture and material prosperity of Alberta. What is more, however, there was also evidence of a high level of thought and will to action. It was no gathering of an elite; no proud flaunting of the superior graces of a would-be aristocracy. In all the speeches one could hear a note of longing that, in the remotest corners of this great land, men, women and children, now living in relative poverty, their desire for comfort and beauty and self-development thwarted by conditions, should have justice and opportunity. The gracious speech and winning personality of the again-elected President of the women's section, Mrs. R. B. Gunn, was an inspiration towards those ends. So, also, was the note of optimism and appeal to action sounded by Premier Brownlee and others.

In addition to these two big events, the smaller dining halls of the city were kept busy accommodating banquetting groups from the various Federal districts and other organizations of the movement. At these the bonds of fellowship created by common interests and work in a common cause were strengthened; and plans laid for more aggressive work in the home communities. Here men and women in touch with weak Locals or officials asleep at their allotted posts, generated new resolves and new energies for the work of the association which will be reflected at thousands of local school house and community hall meetings in the year 1928.

Little Encouragement for Cynics

Any citizen who is so narrow, so devoid of imagination, or so dominated by self interest as to desire the decline of this great citizenship movement, though he might find cynical pleasure in surveying the membership records of the past few years, would find little to encourage him at the Calgary convention of 1928. The movement is most thoroughly alive. It is sound at heart. It has been made strong and vigorous by the strenuous conflicts of twenty years. It has now that experience and self-consciousness which is the surest guarantee of survival. It needs but the stimulus of some immediate task to make it tingle with life and energy to its finger tips. The Convention will serve to restore to glowing health and activity any part that has tended to become weak or flabby through disuse or complacency.

What lies ahead upon the winding road? Abundant life? or weakness and decay? Let who desires the best take up his load, Be great, though small his task and short the day.

Around each bend, and at the end, Wonders undreamed beset the way.

War was all right fifty years ago. It's a fool's game now.—Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson.

ANNUAL MEETING OF DAIRY POOL POSTPONED

It has been found necessary to postpone the date of the Annual Meeting of the Alberta Dairy Pool, which was announced for February 15th. Due notice will be given to delegates by mail, and through *The U.F.A.*, when a definite date has been set.

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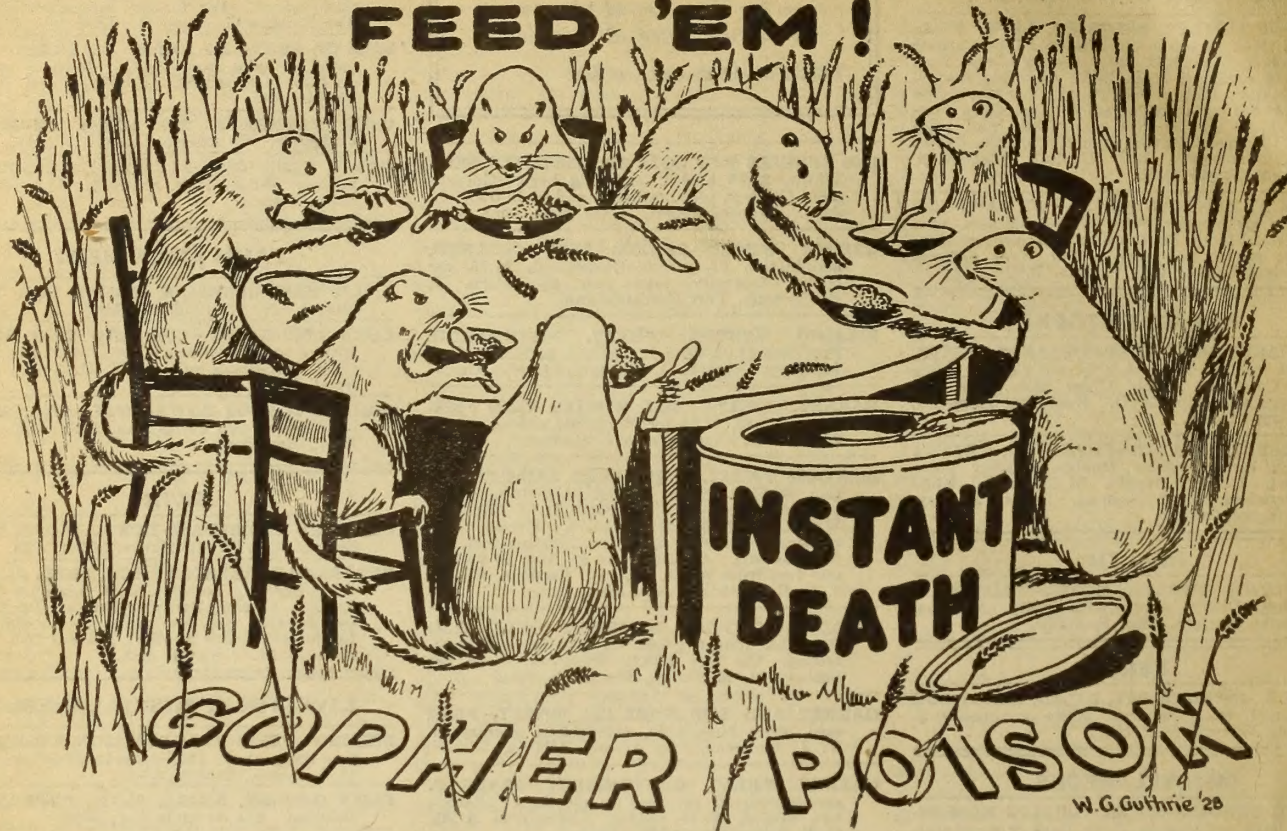
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